Toni Spina

English 6

2/21/2016

Book Review of Looking for Alaska

 In the book Looking for Alaska, by John Green, the theme of the book is Alienation and Belonging. The book reveals a lot about friendship, expectations, life, and even death. This book starts out with Miles Halter, a loner with no friends who leaves his home in Florida to go to Culver Creek Preparatory High School in his Junior year of high school. Once he is there, he makes friends with his roommate Chip, and Chip’s friends, a hip-hop enthusiast, Takumi, and the beautiful but emotionally unstable, Alaska. From then on they prank, fall in love, and go on adventures until the unthinkable happens, Alaska Young dies, in a drunk driving accident. Miles and Chip then try to find out where and why she was driving in the middle of the night. This novel had a very good plotline and had themes that most people could relate to. Friendship is a big theme in this, it shows how friendships can change things. It can change people for the better, like when Miles goes from an awkward loner to a typical teenager. Friendships can also change people for the worst, Miles starts smoking, drinking alcohol, and partying with his friends. Another big theme is expectations vs reality. This is major with Miles and Alaska’s relationship. Miles expected Alaska to leave her boyfriend for him, when in reality “she would still be Jake’s girlfriend and that there’d be nothing but drama between the two of them”. The last major theme was life and death, where people can not stop living when someone they love dies. In this novel, Alaska stops living her life after her mom dies, she started smoking and drinking, eventually leading to her demise. The same thing happens to Miles and Chip when Alaska dies, but then they realise Alaska would not want that, so they celebrate her by pulling a prank that Alaska thought of before she died. This book was amazing, hitting so many themes people deal with in life all the time. Although, it was sad it was a real page turner and I would not have changed the book even if I could.