What’s Your “A”?

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| ***“On the breast of her gown, in fine red cloth, surrounded with an elaborate embroidery and fantastic flourishes of gold thread, appeared the letter A” (55).*** |

As we well know, Hester Prynne’s scarlet A serves as a punishment for her lustful sin. For this project, you are to reflect upon your own “sins” and create a “scarlet letter” of your own to wear upon your person.

Let’s be honest; you probably saw this coming.

Just like Hester’s, your “letter” will be the first letter of the word that describes a weakness in your own character or the first letter of a word that applies to a sin you have committed or a rule that you have broken. For example, L for Lazy or C for Cheater (you may not use these examples). Your letter should represent something that you do not like about yourself, something that causes you either shame, guilt, or embarrassment. Keep in mind, however, that you will be sharing this letter with others, so please don’t feel it necessary to divulge your deepest, darkest secret or anything that will get you into trouble.

**You will be given some time in class to create your letter. You are more than welcome and even encouraged to add to its brilliance at home with your own supplies. When creating your letter, consider the following and respond in writing in the space below: (Letter = 80 points of a grade)**

1. Why is your letter decorated the way that it is? The size that it is? Worn how it is?

2. Where will you wear the letter on your body? Head? Heart? Wrist? Neck? Why?

3. Is it sewn on like Hester’s or is it more appropriate that you wear it another way (tattooed, branded, worn around your neck, in your hair, etc.)? Why?

**THERE’S MORE…**

* You will wear your letter ALL DAY at school on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* You will turn in the letter and this sheet the next day with your typed and printed reflection.
* If *anyone* asks you why you are wearing your letter, you must *explain* *to them* what that letter means and why you chose that character trait.

**Below is list of signatures that must be completed/signed for you to receive your grade. (25 points of a quiz grade)**

**As you wear your letter, share your story (explain what it means) to each of the following people and have them sign their name so I can read it below:**

TWO peers who haven’t read the novel (will probably need to be an underclassman): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Someone in our class whom you do not normally speak to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A school administrator or counselor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

THREE teachers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A peer who has read the novel (not in our class): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Also, for the project, you will be required to write a one to two-page reflection essay in the first person perspective. This will be typed and printed and handed in to Mrs. B. The following should be covered in the reflection: (100 point essay grade)**

• What your letter stands for and the rationale behind it

• What it felt like wearing the letter

• Reactions from others when they saw you wearing the letter

• What it was like telling people about your letter

• How people responded after they heard what your letter stood for

• How you could possibly relate to Hester Prynne (your essay should quote and cite the text at least 3 times)

**Your entire project, the Letter, the 3 questions regarding the creation of your letter, and your typed reflection must be completed by Wednesday, May 9.**

Letter itself + signatures = 100 point quiz grade (not eligible to be dropped)

Typed and printed reflection essay = 100 point essay grade (Major Assignment)