



**CROSSROADS
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Young Adult Literature and Ethics
Spring Semester, 2020

Winter Reading Assignment
Heaven by Angela Johnson

To jump start our discussion of literature for young people, you will read one book and complete one assignment over winter break. You will read the book *Heaven* by Angela Johnson (2003), which is one of our required course texts.

Please keep a journal as you read, making notes about the story and its construction. Pay particular attention to the dilemmas the main character encounters, and how Johnson shows the character navigating through them — whether the dilemma is a personal problem, a disagreement within a relationship, or a larger issue in society. When you have finished reading, write a paragraph or two explaining how the main character's development happens through these dilemmas. You may use any notebook or application you like to keep this journal.

Your journal is due in hard copy form on the first day of class.