

The skin we Ink...

This article discusses the way literature and the way one's grasp or lack thereof affects the way others perceive you. It particularly focuses on the way this dilemma affects the black man. The writer uses "Derrick" and his friends as sample sizes.

He illustrates their literacy outside of the usual academic standard.

The writer uses Derrick's personal writings to convey themes that transcend across his life. These themes are also present in Derrick's tattoos.

The writer also contextualizes these tattoos as literary works in themselves; they have themes, meanings, and overall stories to convey. All of this speaks to Royster's idea that black people are naturally excellent storytellers. An idea that should not be written off because black culture and language fails to adhere to the white standard.