

# 1 | The I is Never Alone, Reflection

## 1.1 | Initial Reaction

- Tragic, hey?
- Examining national identity + colonialism
- So, what's up with the birds?
  - Birds taken on human behaviors
  - Similar to Wild Animal Imprinting!!

## 1.2 | Thoughts on Composition

Thoughts on the composition of the text...

- Crappy stuff happening to Siriak – but very often at dawn or dusk... #why?
  - "Died together before sunset"
  - "At dawn he set food on the isle"
- Shift in tone and pride:
  - "**Condemned**" => Walking about
    - \* (Also, Condemned used a lot!)
    - \* Perhaps a demonstration of the involuntary nature of events?
  - "Stared at + pronounced" => Proclaimed
- "Bones mixed with the sand on the beach"
  - So, he *became* part of the island?
  - Assimilation or giving in?
- "The outcome was everything Siriak might have hoped for, if not foreseen" — so, in some ways, is Siriak losing track of his larger "mission"
- Symbolism of mirrors
  - That one wants to "see" themselves changing the area
  - But, obviously, it does not really work, for it decomposes with him
  - Mirrors="The (non-actual) Way Out"?
  - Simply creating an *image* of control