Dropped Quotes: How to Avoid Them

- Dropped quotations are those quotations that appear in the middle of your paper without being introduced.
- In order to transition into your quotation smoothly, avoid dropped quotations in your writing.
- If you start your sentence without explaining who's speaking, then the effect on the reader can be jarring.

Example of a dropped quote:

Janie wants everyone to go out and live their lives. “‘...they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves’” (192).

- This quote is not introduced – it is just dropped in.
- Fixing it is simple – introduce your speaker, explain what’s happening, etc.

Integrating your quote:

Janie wants everyone to go out and live their lives, **concluding that** “‘...they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves’” (192).

You can also try …

Janie wants everyone to go out and live their lives. She **concludes that** “‘...they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves’” (192).

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**List of signal words to avoid dropping quotes:**

**Ways to use signal phrases:**

- According to Jane Doe, "..."
- As Jane Doe goes on to explain, "..."
- Characterized by John Doe, the society is "..."
• As one critic points out, "..."
• John Doe believes that "...
• Jane Doe claims that "...
• In the words of John Doe, "...

Other facts about quotes:

• When including a quote within a quote, it must be in this format:
  ➢ “‘…they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves’” (192).
  ➢ You must put it between apostrophes – it is not the author speaking, but a character
• Correct citation format – At the end of a quote, you do not include punctuation – the period comes after the page number.
  ➢ Incorrect - “‘…they got tuh fuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves.’” (192)
  ➢ Correct – “‘…they got tuh find out about livin’ fuh theyselves’” (192).