

# *A STEP DEEPER*

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ENG1141 CREATIVE WRITING



Honestly, when I first enrolled for this class and figured it would be a writing-intensive one I couldn't be bothered. All I knew was that I had to get a good grade and get the credit I needed for some random elective that I honestly didn't put much care for. However, my perspective of what this class had to offer changed as the months went by. We started with the memoirs. I figured coming into this class that my writing was already extraordinary and out of this world, that was until I met some of my peers. Seeing the amount of effort, detail, dialogue, and all-around passion they put into writing made me always insecure about showing my pieces off to the professor when she would ask for a volunteer. With the memoir we were to pick a valuable item in which I picked a sweater my aunt gave to me as a gift, I went through the comments that were left by my cohort and realized just how flawed I was. Whether it be from basic spelling and grammar to the more convoluted details that I left out like dates, what exactly I had received it as since my first draft didn't mention it being a birthday gift, and various other things. It was a shot through the heart for my ego seeing someone able to find so many flaws in my work, but it woke me up. It made me realize that I couldn't just write whatever I wanted and think I would receive the best grades for it, I had to make sure these mistakes only happened the first time which as you read through my short story and poems you can see I wanted to make sure my writing was at a level that not only my professor was satisfied with but I myself as the writer was satisfied with submitting.

## MEMOIR 1

Meet my red and grey hoodie that I received when I was in middle school. I had gotten it as a birthday gift from my aunt who I see as another mother so right off the bat it was something I treasured and held with quite a lot of value. It was oversized and seeing how I was self-conscious during middle school it was something that I felt not only comfortable in but safe with. It felt like you were always being hugged or if you ever wanted to hide you could pull the cords on the hoodie and close it off so I didn't have to talk to others. It's a sweater that I still have to this day seeing how it still fits me perfectly, however it's only something I wear when I need some comfort or a way to destress from the day. I'm able to put it on and just hide or fall asleep with it on. If I was ever to give it to someone it would be my best friend, she tends to love oversized hoodies or shirts so I feel as though it would put a smile on her face to receive it as a gift from me.

## SHORT STORY 2

January 8th, 2018, you may be wondering why this date is so important, well it's the day Adrian's life got turned upside down. But before we get to that let me set the scenario that led up to that change. Adrian is currently engaged to Nathaly, they've known each other since high school and have been in a relationship ever since, from the moment they met they hit it off and felt as though they'd found their soulmate to be with for the rest of their lives. They would spend countless hours with one another, always wanting to be with each other and make each other happy. With the years going by Adrian had felt as though he needed to ask the question, the only thing going through his mind at the time was "I want to be with her forever" so that night he decided to take her out to her favorite restaurant. The evening was going well, as usual, Adrian was cracking jokes and Nathaly was trying her absolute best not to laugh too loudly to draw attention. Eventually, the desserts that were ordered for the night arrived and on top of Nathaly's cake was a ring, she stood there in shock at what was to come from this ring. Adrian would take it and tell her how he felt about her, it was quoted "I've never felt so sure about something in my life and being able to spend every day with you would be nothing more than a dream come true for me, Nathaly will you marry me and make me the happiest man alive?" As she was trying to speak the tears kept pouring out and all Adrian received was a mumbled "yes" followed by cheers from others in the restaurant. Skip a few months and the wedding is being planned, where do they want to have it, who are they inviting, do they want it to be traditional or have it be their own way? So many questions yet they were never baffled by the amount of work needed to put in seeing how all they wanted was to be with each other. As the wedding day arrived Adrian was nothing but nerves, he had gone to the bathroom about 4 times now and is constantly shaking because he wants everything to be perfect for their big day, as is tradition to not see the bride in her wedding dress until she comes down the aisle, Adrian was left to imagine just how beautiful Nathaly would look in hers. As the ceremony commenced and the music started to play, Nathaly was being walked down the aisle by her younger brother, Adrian was in complete disbelief that the day had finally arrived and started to shed tears of happiness, his best man Franklyn had him covered and passed him his handkerchief. As she reached the pastor and they faced each other all you could see was smiles. Eventually the pastored had arrived to the part where he says "if anyone thinks these 2 souls should not be intertwined or married, speak up or forever hold your peace" and yet as no one in the crowd said anything the last person Adrian ever expected to say no was his own soon to be wife Nathaly. Her tears started falling as she apologized and proceeded to say she wasn't ready for something this big and she ran away leaving Adrian at the altar alone, leaving him to question "what did he do wrong?". Later that day Adrian was in shambles at the hotel while his best man Franklyn was trying to cheer him up by saying "there's a reason for everything, I'm sure she'll come back". Little did he know it was convenient timing seeing how there was a knock at the door, when Adrian didn't want anyone else around he would tell the person at the door to go away. He heard Nathaly's voice "Adrian please let me in, I want to talk about what just happened". She goes on to explain the situation at hand, but the main take away was that she wasn't ready for marriage. Adrian sat there confused and left wondering "so why did you accept my proposal, why put all this time into this if you didn't want to get married yet". Nathaly had no answer, she felt as though no matter what she said she couldn't make up for what she did to him. Adrian goes on to say "I love you Nathaly, there's no one in this world I'd rather be with, but if you weren't ready I'd wish you would tell me, talk to me and we could've resolved this together like we always do". She starts to tear up and from the mumbling "I'm

sorry for being such a mess”. Adrian, still caring as much as he does for her, comforted Nathaly, told her that everything was going to be okay, that they would take their time with things and make sure nothing got in the way of what they wanted. They spent the night talking about how they could possibly bring the news to the family, but it was as simple as saying “we aren’t ready for marriage”. Adrian could never sit there and watch her say it by herself, he would feel guilty, so he chose to take the criticism and the harsh looks together. As the news was told, most were outraged and in disbelief, while others chose to leave understanding the circumstances. The wedding was called off completely and well Adrian and Nathaly continued being their normal selves, they understood the issue and worked it out together because they understood that there was a lot more to lose had they handled this poorly. And most can ask “what could’ve been the worse outcome” as they’re left to think “losing one another”.

## POEM: FAMILY

A hard working father who's eyes glistened at his son

A caring and loving mother introduced to the angel she created

A family who saw nothing else but hope for the future

However a son who only ever followed orders Left to wonder was this it? born to only satisfy the needs of others

Confronted by both his parents as to what he chooses to do

Admits there's nothing but confusion on his mind

However disappointed in time and money being wasted they're understanding

They praise him with open arms

This is my hopeful family, my safe haven