



Creative Writing!

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Final Reflection

One thing for sure about myself is that I love to write, I feel like I have good penmanship so it makes me want to see my thoughts on paper. When I was a little younger I used to have a journal that I would write in everyday, I would use it to express my feelings and make up stories when I was bored. I took about two other writing courses throughout my years in college and this creative writing class was my favorite. I was able to express my thoughts, create stories out of my imagination, get feedback, and revise various of my work. As a writer I have learned there's no such thing as "too much" details in a piece of writing, because as a reader those details do help give a visual or at least a better understanding on what is being spoken on. As a writer we know how our characters look and feel because it's all in our head so as a writer I learned to elaborate on my thoughts and express them in a detailed way so that if I were someone else reading my work I would fully understand exactly what I was trying to write on. As a reader I learned that there are many different ways you can put together a story. For example there was an assignment where we had to look at a picture and create a story out of it. Reading other students' work that had the same picture as me was very intriguing.

When I first started this class the word seemed to be more based on personal experiences, then throughout the course we started using our experiences and turning them into fiction pieces. For Short Story 2, we had the option to choose our POV picture and change the setting to create a short story, this was my favorite assignment. I enjoyed writing this piece of writing because that was one assignment that I feel I spent the most free time on instead of rushing it or being in a noisy background. I did struggle at first I knew I wanted to change the setting but I just didn't know what to change it to and how to make a story out of it. Then I looked at the examples that the professor gave to us and that helped me narrow down where I wanted my setting to be and how I wanted my story to go. With the help of the picture it made it easier for me to open up my imagination.

Some notable lessons that have stuck with me is learning how to elaborate enough so the reader can have a better visual understanding. One thing that changed in my writing as the genres changed was the length of my work. Normally when I had to write a piece relating to myself I

tend to get straight to the point and keep it short and simple, but when I started using my imagination and using my personal experiences or pictures to make up stories, I had a lot more to write about. My early assumptions about my writing were that I had a hard time making things up or finding things to write about. I got a little more confident after this course with the feedback that I would get from my work and it helped me in my writing because I felt more confident in my thoughts.

In conclusion, I feel like I learned a lot from this course and I will be able to use these skills in any future writing course that I plan to take. The one thing I can say I struggled with is the fact that even though we met in person I still struggled with it being an online writing class. I am a writer, I feel like my thoughts flow better when I write them rather than typing them. I never really adapted I just always resulted in writing out my work first then typing it out after. The bad thing that came out of that was I tended to submit my assignments in late because I would forget to type it out sometimes. But on the bright side the fact that I still had to type it out was a way of revising my work. Here are some of my pieces of work that I feel I put the most effort in and came out decent:

Meet My Dog

I never said to myself that I wanted a dog until I encountered my girlfriend's dog. Although I didn't get to see him grow up, I met him at 7 years old (in dog years) and I was still able to see him learn new things. His name is Chief. He is a small white and brown dog, we are unsure of his breed but he is mixed with a couple of breeds. When I first met him I never thought I would grow an attachment to him. He wasn't the first dog that I've met, but he was the first to catch my interest in having a pet of my own.

Chief is such a loving dog. When he wants you to pet him he would put his head by your hand and try to lift your hand over his head. Whenever I come over he gets so excited and starts jumping on my leg and follows me around the house. Other people with dogs find it hard to train their dogs but Chief actually listens very well to the point he can go for a walk and cross the street without needing his leash. He makes sure he uses the bathroom outside and not inside the house. He doesn't normally bark unless he senses someone is at the door, he wants some water, or he needs to go for a walk. I feel like he is such a smart dog, there was a time we put his mouth wash in his water and he realized and kept barking until we changed it.

Having him around is always a loving feeling. Sometimes he would just stare at you and if you stare back long enough he will come to you and lay down beside you and just fall asleep. The best reward of me being able to share him as a pet is the fact I get to enjoy his love and care. Although he is not my dog and he is my girlfriend's dog he still is loyal to me but always loyal to her first. Which makes me realize how smart he is, he is a one of a kind dog. I plan to get a dog of my own one day but I know my relationship with Chief will always be something I will never forget.

Short Story 2

Sometimes in life the love you have for certain people will make you feel like you would do anything in the world just to make or see them happy. Jonathan and Paris have been best friends since they were 5 years old. They became best friends through their mothers who were also best friends, they were both single moms and spent a lot of time with each other which caused Jonathan and Paris to do everything together. They were both an only child but people often thought they were related because they were always together from such a young age. They went to the same schools together up until college. Jonathan was very mischievous and Paris was always there to try and keep him out of trouble. They didn't come from a wealthy home which caused them to get bullied a lot in school because of the clothes they had on. They always told each other they can't wait until they finish school so they would be able to get a good job and won't have to worry about struggling ever again. The struggles they went through motivated them to want to do good in their classes so they can graduate.

Jonathan always had a hard time actually doing well in school without the help of Paris. Paris helped him with his homework every night and even sometimes just did it for him. When they got to college it was harder for Paris to always keep track of what Jonathan was doing because she was working a full time job while being a full time student. On the other hand, Jonathan decided to sell drugs on campus instead because he figured it would be easy money. In his freshman year he was able to make enough money to be able to buy new clothes, shoes and even a new car. Until one day he ended up getting caught selling drugs by one of his professors and ended up getting banned from their college. Jonathan was so furious that both of his ways of making money were now gone. He was going to school to eventually become a doctor and now he felt like all his dreams were crushed. When Paris found out she was so devastated because she didn't even have any idea that he was selling drugs on campus in the first place. The minute she found out she called Jonathan right away and said "Are you serious?", he replied sadly with "I've been waiting for your call". They argued about the fact Paris felt there were other way he couldve resulted in making money other than doing illegal activities. Jonathan ended up getting furious he told her "You're not my guardian, stop thinking you always have to tell me what I do wrong" after that Paris realized Jonathan really needs to figure things out on his own maybe she

was always there to clean up his mess and he should learn and face consequences when necessary since he is getting older. She told him she wishes him well and she will see him when classes are finished and she still loves him. She tried to still be there for her best friend in the best way she could but it was hard because she was all the way Upstate NY while he was in Queens NY. Jonathan spent most of his time trying to find a plan to still make some money, he tried selling drugs by where he lived but he felt he made more money on campus than he did out there. He ended up having to sell his car because he could afford to pay his car note and insurance every month anymore.

Finally when summer break came around Paris was back and little did she know Jonathan had a plan. Paris and Jonathan were catching up and she was explaining how stressed with school and work and Jonathan felt like this was the best opportunity to tell her that he has been planning to rob a jewelry store that was about 20 minutes from where they lived. Jonathan told her he had been watching the jewelry store for months and explained the “perfect plan” to Paris. He had a toy gun and spray painted it black to look real and he planned to use that to threaten everyone. He went into the jewelry store a week ago to try and buy something for his mom and a customer accused him of taking their phone. The customer asked them to check the cameras and they informed them they unfortunately the cameras are down at the moment, but shortly later the customer realized that she had left her phone in the bathroom after all and sincerely apologized to Jonathan. After hearing that the cameras were down that's when Jonathan came up with his plan. He told Paris, he has been watching the store to see if anybody has come to repair the cameras and he hasn't seen anyone come in yet and there was a screen when you walk in that would usually show the live footage but the screen has been blue for a week now. He also added that if they are going to do this they should do it in the next week or two or they would more than likely fix the cameras anytime soon. Paris listened to his plan but immediately disagreed and felt like it was a bad idea and told him he should try and get a job instead. So she helped him to search for jobs and was successful. Within 3 days he got an interview and got hired on the spot to work at The Home Depot. About a week later Paris' mother was diagnosed with cancer, she now had hospital bills that she couldn't afford to pay for. She then spoke to Jonathan and decided she wanted to go along with the plan so she could help her mother. Since Jonathan started working he was no longer thinking about robbing the jewelry store anymore so he decided he actually did

not want to go along with the plan anymore. So Paris decided she would do it on her own because he did explain every step of the plan to her the week before. On a Wednesday night Paris was ready to rob the jewelry store so she can cover her mothers medical expenses but things didn't go as planned. As she proceeded with the plan which involved using a fake gun to intimidate everyone, the security officer on site realized that Paris seemed a little shaky and decided to shoot Paris in the leg instead of listening to her command stating "Everyone put your hands behind your head and get on the ground, if you move I won't hesitate to shoot". Paris got arrested that same night and was sent to jail for 5 years. Jonathan was so devastated and felt like it was all his fault because he came up with the plan in the first place. He ended up saving all the money he worked for to help her mother out in the hospital because he felt like that was the least he could do for his best friend and her mother, who he always looked at as family.

Spaghetti

Spaghetti! My favorite meal

I can't get enough of it

I love the smell, the taste

Spaghetti is the good stuff

The meat on top, perfects the taste

When I make my spaghetti, I stuff my face

Covered with sauce and parmesan cheese on top

When I eat my spaghetti,

It definitely hits the spot

Spaghetti! My favorite meal

Spicy or mild, it's a great deal