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Education

       Do you ever realize how much your experiences with school in general played a big part in how you turned out as a person? Well it does...and whether you notice it or not we've all picked up on certain habits and characteristics that directly came from what we were taught and/or the different types of people we've encountered as we were growing up. For me personally, my experiences with school have given me thick skin and resilience. This is because I've learned alot about the way people act and why they do it and to never take it personally, to always keep going no matter how hard thing's get, and most importantly, that things will get better with time so patience is key. Despite all the hurt and inconveniences I've faced there was really no other choice and I had to pick myself up and keep going even when I felt like giving up as a whole because at the end of the day it is my life and the decisions I make can take a huge toll on my future so instead of letting the bad things that have happened on the way there stop me, i've decided to use it as fuel to keep striving for what I really want in life.

       Let me start off with my mishap in the first grade when the teacher called me stupid. Most of what the teacher said to me after saying I was stupid is a blur in my head now, but I do remember the moments leading up to it and the exact moment she lashed out on me. She was teaching us math and we were all sitting at our desks. A few minutes into the lesson some things fell out of my desk so I went to go pick them up and stopped paying attention to what she was teaching because I was distracted with all of the things that fell on the floor. I got everything up and went to sit back down and put everything back inside the desk as quietly as possible so I wouldn't disrupt the class, as I was putting the stuff in she calls on me to answer a question, me not even knowing what she asked I say I don't know and that I was fixing my desk. She pauses for a few seconds and you can see the anger brewing in her eyes, shortly after she screams "JAYLA THIS IS EXACTLY WHY YOU'RE GOING TO GET LEFT BACK IN THE FIRST GRADE YOU'RE STUPID AND GET DISTRACTED BY EVERY LITTLE THING"... I froze after she said that to me and only being 6 years old at the time I didn't know how to react, I remember all my classmates turning their heads to look at me but that's really about it. All I remember after that is being too ashamed to say anything to my parents or principal about it because I was too embarrassed and didn't think they'd believe me, and for a while it made me not want to go back to school and I felt like what she said to me was true and that everybody around me believed it as well and it got to a point where I would perform poorly in all my classes because I lost all my motivation to even try because of her comment living rent free in my head. Looking back at this experience now, she probably acted this way out of frustration, some people tend to let things build up and lash out at the wrong moments without even realizing so in some sick way I do forgive her even though it took a huge toll on me emotionally at the time, I can't

let what she said define me. Despite that, after the fog that left me unmotivated cleared up I started doing really well in her class once again so that school year ended on a positive note luckily and every school year after that I always try my best when it's time to do the work just to reassure myself that i've put my all into what I did even if it got tricky. Nonetheless, this experience has taught me the importance of having patience as well as not making people feel bad about themselves for not knowing something right away. Now to this day, whenever I ask somebody anything I give them a chance to come up with an answer or take the time to explain to them what I'm talking about if they don't know or understand what I asked. It's the least I can do honestly.

Now moving on to my high school experience from hell. I honestly don't even know where to start with this one because it's just bad all around, if I took the time to break down every event you would probably be here for an eternity so i'll just state some prominent factors. The teachers and principal didn't really care about anything that went on, since it was still sort of a new technical arts school that's pretty small, their main focus was polishing their reputation to get more people to want to go there so they never really took the time to address any problems occurring and instead swept everything under the rug like it didn't even matter. Of course, this didn't help at all when most of the students at the school were troublesome and had a shared desire to start problems all of the time. From having various rumors about me go around that resulted into having the entire school turn against me without actually knowing me to having a full blown panic attack right in front of the guidance counselor and it being disregarded with an "okay, but you have to leave my office now cause there's another student that needs to come in" and even witnessing things that have happened to some of my peers. This school was no walk in the park but regardless of all of it (even when it got like. REALLY BAD) I still did what I could to stay on top of all of my classes and graduate because that's what actually mattered at the end of the day. During freshman year I was one of the top students in my living environment class and got the opportunity to take the SAT early, I don't really remember what I scored on it but it still gave me so much academic confidence that ended up paying off for the better which I'll talk about how it did soon. I also had a few production class film's that ended up on something they had called best of and I even ended up being one of the students that would score the highest in the class for regular tests and the regents to a point where all of my parent teacher conferences were mainly focused on my social issues at the school since my academic performance was spot on. Fast forward to junior year which was very overwhelming to say the least. We started to look at colleges and at the time I lost all interest in film so I didn't even know what I wanted to do in college and this loss of interest also made me want to leave the school even more than I already did. So I looked into graduating early, I had to talk to my advisor to see if I had enough credits to do it so that's what I did. Though it was sort of a hassle and the teachers tried anything they could to stop it from happening because they felt I needed to stay for "character development" my advisor finally pulled out my credits and it turned out that I exceeded the amount needed to graduate so I ended up getting to do it. After I left I decided to take a very much needed gap year

to better my mental health and look into colleges in a peaceful environment. Once this happened thing's started to get so much better. I got into the school that was my first choice and got into a major which I really enjoy. I've also taken the time to analyze my experiences in high school and came to the realization that most it was just projection and that I shouldn't have let it beat me down as much as I did. Suddenly, even to this day I'm proud of myself for not giving up because it all ended up working out and making me stronger than I realize. Despite all the mishaps I still managed to put my education above it all even when it felt like there was no hope but now finally being out of that situation it's helped me realize how you really can accomplish anything no matter the circumstances.

Everything you were taught and the people you've encountered throughout the years have played a big part in making you the person you are today, school especially plays a huge role in this. Afterall, it is one of the first places that you meet various people and are exposed to different kinds of influences, but what matters at the end of the day is what you do with it and how you let it affect you in the long run. You can either rise above it or let it bury you underground, just remember that it's your life and that at the end of the day you can come back from just about anything if you really put your mind to it. My mother once sent me a quote that said "You're not responsible for the programming you received as a child, but you are 100% responsible for fixing it as an adult" do what you will with that the world is your oyster afterall!