

Personal Writing  
By:  
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English 12 AP  
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Mr. Storino

I was born. It was a hot summer day in Wilmington, Delaware. The day was July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1985. My mother had been pregnant for 9 months and 2 weeks. It was a weird pregnancy, started by me being conceived while my mom was on birth control, to a constant arguing between my parents that eventually led to their divorce when I was 2. By the time I was 4, my mother had remarried a remarkable man who I live with and love very much today. I still see my father, who remarried when I was about 9, every couple of months. We had a better relationship when I was younger, but just has his dad and he did, and his grandfather and his son, we have slowly drifted apart and have a somewhat strained relationship.

Since I started in school, I have excelled in every class I partook in. Unfortunately, as I grew older, I have become lazier, being called a so-called slacker and underachiever by many. I was always in the top of my classes until I reached high school. I still maintain a 3.7 GPA and am ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> in the class, which isn't bad, but considering I have an IQ of 143, putting me 3 points above genius, it is not what my parents expect of me. My sister had a 4.0 and was ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in her class. I hear constantly that I am smarter than her and should therefore have better grades, they do not realize my course load has always been harder than hers and my social life is much more busy than hers was. I realize one should not let their social life interfere with school, but after all, "all work and no play make Johnny a dull boy". Life is to be enjoyed, and that is what I do.

I plan on attending college after I graduate. I am either going to Virginia Tech, James Madison University, or Mary Washington College. I will most likely major in business whichever school I attend. After college, I am not sure of what I want to do.

Some thoughts I have are going to law school and becoming a lawyer or possibly even joining the F.B.I as an intern during college and joining afterwards. It really just depends on how I do in college and where I seem to excel. I am willing to go wherever my skills and brain can take me.

Something I enjoy an extreme amount is music. When it comes to music, I am eclectic; I like everything from classical music to rap to alternative rock. My absolute favorite band or musician would be the Dave Matthews Band. His guitar skills are absolutely memorizing and I find his lyrics and singing to be amazing. No matter what mood I'm in, I can put in a Dave CD, and be happy. Some people call me obsessive, but when I do something I enjoy, I like to go all out and engulf myself in whatever it is. Personally, I have never been a very good musician, which is probably a reason I enjoy music so much, I have an unbelievable respect for the people who can do the amazing things, that I can not.

Other than music, my biggest hobbies are sports. I have played baseball since I was seven years old. I have been on Thomas Dale's team since I was a freshman and hopefully will be the starting catcher this year. I played football from 5<sup>th</sup> grade until 10<sup>th</sup> grade. I quit the sport due to a knee injury in the middle of my 10<sup>th</sup> grade season. I continued to play with a partially torn MCL, because the trainer thought it was only a sprain. After the season I went to a doctor who diagnosed it as a partial tear that never properly healed. We decided the best idea to stop a further injury would be to quit football. I did this, and to continue playing a fall sport I started playing volleyball as a junior. I am not very good at volleyball, unfortunately. I was just good enough to make the team. I am called the captain of the b-team in jest, which is not a very respected role,

but I guess being captain of the b-team is better than being the worst player on the b-team. But, no matter what I play or what I do, I always have support from the people who mean most to me.

My friends and family mean more to me than anything in this world. As long as they are happy and safe, I am happy. School and sports are important, but I am nothing without those I care about. Whether it's my dad, mom, step-mom, step-dad, older sister (Alexis), younger sister (Brittany), younger brother (Ryan), my best friends (Amy Gray, Derek Altizer, Stephen Partin, and Katie Joyce), or my girlfriend (Jordan Dougherty), as long as they are happy, that is what matters most to me. They are the ones who bring smiles to my face, and love to my heart.