***Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.***

Have you ever woken up and unexpectedly seen more than a million people view your post?

I grew up in an environment where my friends doubted me because it took me a while to catch up with trends or new gadgets. I initially accepted that no one would notice me, and I never thought I would be popular. My self-doubt led me to become quiet and reserved. I preferred keeping my opinions to myself since my friends didn't take my voice seriously. It made me feel that my views were unnecessary and that no one would bother listening to what I had to say.

However, I decided to use TikTok to post a critique a few months ago because there was an issue with my mom's car that deserved some attention. I voiced my concern about Indonesian-assembled Hondas, pointing out the flaws of the built quality, such as unsecured armrests and falling door trims, things the competitor didn't have. The assembler did not appropriately secure the trims attached to the doors. Considering how much my mom paid for this car, I was disappointed. My goal with the video was to let people know about Honda's awful quality control, yet it did more than that.

Never have I seen that many views on any video I made, let alone a TikTok. This was unexpected as I didn't think the video would reach hundreds of For Your Pages. At that point, I didn't know what to do or react. I looked at the comments and was amazed by the number of people who related to my critique. The feeling of getting more recognition from other people I had never interacted with was exciting. Still, I'm worried that there might be a negative consequence, such as hateful comments or the company I'm critiquing sending a subpoena.

It didn't take long until I got a message from a Honda representative. "Oh lord, it's happening," I said. The world stopped at that moment, and my face went pale. With my heart thumping loudly, I read the message.

It turns out that the factory's representative from which my mom's car was produced wanted to look at the vehicle and inspect what was wrong with it. I was 16 then and had never talked to a corporate official before. They found that weak adhesive was the reason for the falling trims and later fixed it free of charge. The people from Honda were accepting, and even though I spoke badly about their cars, they were open to discussion and feedback to improve themselves. They listened to me, which contrasted with my initial mindset. This made me realize —regardless of age and status —one's voice matters, and it must be voiced responsibility for a good cause.

Since then, my follower count has grown to 4000, and my likes have reached 240,000+. I have also started publishing different content types in addition to critiquing. I create other content, such as reviewing air fresheners or commenting on newly launched cars. I'm very passionate about examining new cars' features and comparing different vehicles on the market, which helps people make better decisions. My TikTok account also aims to inform and educate people about specific car updates and products to keep people informed on current automobile trends.

I learned about the power of words and how they can help and heal others and ourselves. This has become my aspiration when using my TikTok and other social media platforms. This journey taught me to always be open to others and ourselves, and it helped me ease things when accepting new challenges and communicating with others. I now feel confident in expressing myself, which has made things easier for me so far.

Hi I Nyoman,

Thank you for your submission! I see that you made your essay much more concise and highlighted the lesson you learned well. The only parts that you can expand now is the intro and the concluding paragraph. If you would still like to start with a rhetorical question, you should choose one that relates to being brave and making a change, not necessarily how many views your video got. As for the ending, elaborating on how you feel confident (the way you talk, the way you behave now vs. before) will show the results of the experience better.

C.G.