While high school does not generally encourage students to explore new aspects of life, college sets the stage for that exploration. I myself went through this searching process and found something that has changed my experience at college for the better: I discovered ASL — American Sign Language(美式手语).

I never felt an urge to learn any sign language before. My entire family is hearing, and so are all my friends. The spoken languages were enough in all my interactions(交往). Little did I know that I would discover my love for ASL.

The story began during my first week at college. I watched as the ASL Club performed their translation of a song. Both the hand movements and the very idea of communicating without speaking attracted me. What I saw was completely unlike anything I had experienced in the past. This newness just left me wanting more.

After that, feeling the need to explore further, I decided to drop in on one of ASL club’s meetings. I only learned how to sign the alphabet that day. Yet instead of being discouraged by my slow progress, I was excited. I then made it a point to attend those meetings and learn all I could.

The following term, I registered for an ASL class. The professor was deaf and any talking was prohibited. I soon realized that the silence was not unpleasant. Instead  , if there had been any talking, it would have caused  us to learn less. Now, I appreciate the silence and the new way of communication it opens.