Scene (1): As a child, I was always interested in science and math. So when I entered college, it felt natural to pursue a degree in biology with the intention of going to medical school. I seemed like the best choice for someone who loved science and wanted to help people. However, as I progressed through my studies, I found myself struggling to find a reason to keep on with the vigorous program. The classes were difficult, the material was complex, and the competition was fierce. Everyone seemed to be aiming for the same thing, admission to medical school, and it felt like we were all fighting tooth and nail to get ahead. I missed out on family events because I was studying, spent my weekends in the library, and constantly battled with imposter syndrome. It felt like I was swimming against the current, trying to keep my head above water.

Scene (2): Fortunately, math courses that were part of my curriculum which I enjoyed and looked forward to attending. The application and problem-solving aspects of math fascinated me, and I found myself spending more and more time studying math than biology. I began to wonder if I had made the right choice in pursuing medicine. Was there another path for me that would allow me to use my love of math and problem-solving skills? It was a revelation for me as I realized that I was passionate about something other than medicine.

Scene (3): After much deliberation, I made the difficult decision to switch my major to civil engineering. It was a scary decision, as I was unsure of what to expect in this new field. However, I knew that my love of math and problem-solving would make me a great fit for the program. As I made the transition, I was struck by how different the program was from biology. There were no long hours in the lab, no dissections, no memorization of scientific facts. Instead, there were complex math problems, physics equations, and engineering principles. It was a stark contrast to what I had been used to, but I found myself enjoying it more and more with each passing day.

Scene (4): As I began my studies in civil engineering, I felt like I was finally going with the flow. The challenges I faced in this program were ones that I was passionate about solving. Instead of feeling like I was constantly swimming against the current, I felt like I was floating on a lazy river. While there were still difficult moments and challenges to overcome, I found myself enjoying the work instead of dreading it. I loved the idea of project managing, especially in the construction field, and solving complex problems. I felt like I was using my skills and talents in a way that was fulfilling and meaningful. And best of all, I didn't feel like I was competing with anyone. Sure, there were other students in my program, but we all seemed to be working together to solve problems rather than trying to outdo each other. Many cases such as study group for

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Calculus, statics, and even surveying, we all seemed to work together to help one another and if someone didn’t understand something, we made sure to work together until we were all onboard. On the contrary, one example that comes to mind is when studying for a chemistry test, I was part of a small study group where we solved through problems together. In this case our peer informed us how to work on a problem and gave the “right” answer. There was no need to not trust his method as it made sense. However, when the test time came, the others and I somehow were marked for having the wrong answer on the test, the same one our peer helped us with. When we confronted him, he explained that he did it on purpose to lower our scores and help boost his.

Scene (5): As I progressed through my civil engineering program, I found myself becoming more and more passionate about the work. I loved the idea of using my knowledge and skills to make a difference in the world. Whether it was designing a bridge that would stand the test of time, or creating a more efficient water flow, I felt like I was contributing to society in a tangible way. This sense of purpose was something that had been missing from my studies in biology. While medicine was certainly a noble profession, it didn't feel like the right fit for me. I had been pursuing it because it was the expected path, not because it was something that truly spoke to me. But with civil engineering, I felt like I had found my true calling.

Scene (6): Of course, there were still challenges to overcome. Civil engineering was not an easy major, and there were times when I felt overwhelmed by the coursework. But unlike before, these challenges felt like ones that I was equipped to handle. I enjoyed the process of solving complex problems, and I felt like I had the skills and knowledge to do so. And while I still experienced moments of imposter syndrome, they were fewer and further between. I felt like I belonged in this program, and that my skills and talents were valued. It was a refreshing change from the constant pressure and competition that I had felt in biology.

In conclusion, I can see that switching from biology to civil engineering was a pivotal moment in my life. It was a decision that was filled with uncertainty and fear, but ultimately led me to a path that felt right for me. By going with the flow and following my passion for math and problem-solving, I was able to find a sense of purpose and fulfillment that had been missing before. In the end, I realized that going with the flow doesn't mean giving up control or direction. It means recognizing where your passions and talents lie and allowing them to guide you to where you're meant to be.

(I would not like to share my Story)