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Literacy Narrative

Throughout my life, I have experienced reading and writing in numerous ways, but no matter what genre or essay, I have never truly enjoyed reading or writing. Now, I will say that I do not remember what stories my mom or dad told me as a child or the books I read in my elementary school and how those stories made me feel, but from what I do remember, as I grew up and as I went from middle school to high school, I slowly distanced myself from reading to the point I did not read or care about books anymore. It all began in middle school, where I read a lot of adventure books like *Endurance*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *The Hobbit,* and many more, and while I read them and there were times I was interested in the story, I never felt a need or wanted to continue reading, and most of the time I just wanted to stop reading it altogether. However, one time, maybe in fifth or sixth grade, I was reading the *I Survived* series, and these books are probably the only books I can remember enjoying, probably because I, myself, wanted to read them. But every book in middle school slowly made me hate reading more and more because I was being forced to read these books, and having to analyze every little passage removed my enjoyment of reading. As I said, as I went from sixth to seventh and all the way up to twelfth, reading for me only got worse because each year we would take more and more away from the story and more towards the meaning of this particular passage, which I understand is important to really understand the text, but I believe you should enjoy the story at least once before you try to dissect it for all its hidden meanings.

Writing is not too much different; I do not hate or love writing, it is just a thing I must do after reading a book from school. What I remember is that I have always written a thesis paper (it could have been something different in middle school, but I do not remember what it was). A thesis paper for my school has the main point, the thesis, and then usually three paragraphs that support your thesis. For every paper I have written, there were always certain topics that the teacher made us focus off of, and this is what our thesis would be arguing for or against, which did help my class get ideas, but I think this way of writing made it boring and limiting because on the rare chance I actually found something interesting throughout the book and was excited to write about it, the essay prompts would not include the part of the book I wanted to write about, so writing became something I had to do after every book, and that is all writing is to me.