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My Writing Life

Writing seemed to be part of my life ever since my childhood. Memories of my early ages are soaked in the sea of books, though most of them are picture books without many words. Continuously trying to understand the bounding between those pictures and words gives me the very first impression of what reading is like.

After reaching Grade 2 in primary school, my Chinese teacher started a journal project, in which every student of hers should write a short essay for about 50 words to record our everyday life in primary school. To be honest, that’s the first time I started to write seriously with specific goals and restrictions. Finding materials in those seemingly ordinary moments is difficult at the beginning, but luckily, I soon discovered how to find events that worth to be cherished even in those most plain days. From a raindrop falling from the roof to stream wandering down the hill, even the most common things could be written in my diary book.

Time flies. Eight years after my dairy project, I had entered senior high school and read lots of books. I was lucky enough to meet many great literature teachers who guided me into the wonderland of literature and helped me to find my own writing ways by absorbing the spring of literature. Once I had been drowned in Hemingway’s roaring sea, Lovecraft’s crazy world and Shen Congwen’s boarder town. Some basic reading of philosophies like *The Republic* allowed me to escape from the restrictions of NCEE (National College Entrance Examination) writing and deepen my insight into writing itself.

Before I was submitted to ZJUI, I have always use pen and paper to write due to the electrical devices restriction that widely takes place in Chinese highschool. After graduation, I started using keyboard and soon fall in love with it for its simpleness to edit passages and convenience of file sorting, which is of vital importance when you have plenty of essays written. Among all the writing applications, I prefer Microsoft Word for its comprehensive abilities and Obsidian for its simple but functional design. Writing on laptop allows me to write efficiently, yet whenever I want to slow down and do some casual writing, pen and paper is still my first choice, for I always believe something deep inside the traditional writing could be never replaced by keyboard.