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My story starts with a young girl who loved reading so much that she wanted to go on and create. She started off with her own illustrated short stories but as she grew, so did her passions. She would eagerly consume all forms of media that were made available to her, but a book would always triumph - and then she got her first PC.

My dad is a software developer who also dabbles in hardware. One day he brought home two old computers, set them up in the back room in the basement (affably dubbed "the computer room"), and allowed my sister and I to explore the internet at the ripe ages of six and seven. Of course, he would provide supervision, but at the time our browsing interests didn't extend past games featuring Dora the Explorer and Spongebob Squarepants. As I got older and my collection of finished novels continued to expand, however, I'd search out sites that would allow me to continue interacting with the worlds that once disappeared after the last page was turned.

One forum in particular that I joined in 2012 at the ripe age of 10 was focused on discussion and writings based off of one of my favorite book series. There were entire sub forums dedicated to creative writing, graphic design, and something that immediately piqued my interest: post customization. The site allowed users to program their own "templates" for their forum posts using a form of HTML. By the time I graduated elementary school, I could roughly design a webpage using HTML and CSS.

I'm an individual who thrives off of logic, organization, and order. Discovering the world of programming led me to unearth an entire field that allows me to combine all of those attributes towards the creation of something new. There's something uniquely satisfying about a perfectly indented block of code, written by myself, that solves the presented problem and produces the intended output.

Programming gives me the perfect amount of autonomy. I'm given a goal and I'm told to reach it; it's an enticing challenge with no gray area when it comes to failure or success. My ideal career is one in which I can measure my accomplishment while being part of a dynamic industry that is simultaneously dominated by rules but bound by none, and computer science gives me the perfect platform for doing so.