I've never enjoyed reading like many of my friends and family members. It has always felt like a chore, especially when it was assigned for school. The readings in school have typically been long and tedious to read. It became increasingly more difficult to sit down to read once the literature became more complex. Because of this, I struggled with zoning out and not comprehending the text. Whenever that happens, I have to go back and reread what I already read. As a result, I am a slow reader that struggles to get into books. However, if I start reading a book I'm interested in, I won't stop reading until I finish. I'm more of a visual learner, so things like books have always been hard for me to get into. The way I process information makes watching movies easier to get invested in because I can see and hear everything that is happening. Because of this, I have always watched the movie version of a book before I even considered reading. For example, during the Covid-19 pandemic, I had only seen the Harry Potter movies, but I heard the books were better. So, I started reading the books and instantly got hooked.

When I was a kid, I read a lot of books. I really enjoyed the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books and the Magic Treehouse books. I would only check out those books from the library. I read them during my free time and during class. However, I tended to reread these books instead of trying to find new ones. Because of this, my reading habits didn't evolve much and I was stuck with books I already read.

Despite my general struggles with reading, I've always been really interested in history. The only books in highschool that I enjoyed reading were ones related to history. I find it easier to enjoy books when I'm interested in the topic so it doesn't feel like a chore. Due to this, books related to history were easy to read and never felt like a chore to me.

Out of the few books I have actually read, one of them stands out to me the most. There was a tv series based on Stephen Hawkings "11/22/63", which was about trying to prevent the assassination of President Kennedy, that I really enjoyed watching. Because of that, I bought the book off Amazon and shortly after I started reading it. It was summer at the time, so I had a lot of free time. That being said, I read the 800 page book in about 4 days. I was able to do this probably because the book was based on US history and I enjoyed the tv show.

Part of the reason I don't read as much in my free time anymore is that in highschool, I was super busy. I played basketball and baseball, which took up a lot of time. Also, I worked 20 hours a week at Hy-Vee. Usually it felt like I had no time to myself and whenever I was home, I was too tired to do anything, let alone try to read a book. This lack of free time resulted in me having to prioritize which hobbies I wanted to do, which meant reading ended up on the backburner, resulting in any interest in reading to fade.

In highschool one of my teachers allowed us to use audiobooks instead of actually reading. So I decided to try it and I found out that I preferred them more. This is because it made it easier to not zone out and process the information. Because of this, it made getting through the books way easier and made me look forward to what

happened next in the book. This ultimately made me comprehend the books better and got me better grades on the assignments we had to do.

In conclusion, although I've always struggled to enjoy reading, I've found that using audiobooks and choosing books on topics I'm interested in, like history, allows me to find enjoyment in literature.