

A Growing Love of Literature
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Growing up, I always had a book in my hand. Even today, I am always reading. As I got older, I began to realize that I wanted to get involved in the process of creating the books I had grown to love. I've come to learn that there are only so many paths I can take to achieve this future career on which I have my heart set.

Two of my favorite books are *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Awakening*. When I read these novels, I fell in love with not only the stories, but also with the characters. *To Kill a Mockingbird* made me realize that books can inspire people to do great things, things that are bigger than people themselves. *The Awakening* showed me that although a reader may see one thing in a plot, the author could mean something completely different. That is another great thing about literature: it's subjective. It can mean a number of things to a number of people, and it does not have to have just one meaning.

While reading some of my favorite books, I remember thinking how cool it would be to help create something of such magnitude, something that could give someone a hope or a dream. I have learned that as I grow and change in my interests, my values, and my life in general, the one thing that has remained constant is my love for books. I know there is not another thing I will ever want to do more than to be a part of the amazing and magical process of creating books like the ones I fell in love with as I grew up—mentally and physically.

My education at Missouri State University and my experiences in the Professional Writing field have greatly prepared me to undertake this internship position, and I know I have increased my confidence and leadership skills by participating in various student organizations. After I receive my Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing, I plan to attend graduate school and earn my Master's in Literature, which would help strengthen my knowledge in the writing and publishing field.