Randy Pausch’s “Last Lecture” is an incredibly inspiring reflection on not just his life, but life in its entirety. While it would be rather remiss for me to say that his open admittance to his own mortality didn’t shock or or stir my curiosity, what I find most, if not more, compelling is his extraordinary grace in the face of total adversity. Pausch doesn't dwell in self-pity; instead, he uses humor, humility, and sincerity to deliver lessons that resonate deeply. Rather than letting his terminal illness define him, he confronts it with an emotionally bulletproof armor.

This delivery makes his message vastly more genuine to both me and a general audience. His messages of perseverance, honesty, and maintaining a childlike sense of wonder is something I deeply resonate with. Lately, I’ve felt as though the innocence and wonder of a younger age has been lost in my recent years. However, Pausch delivers a cathartic message to my current situation, providing comfort for a prospect most of us have experienced. I found particular meaning in his belief that obstacles are there to show how badly you want something, they’re not meant to stop you, but to give you a chance to prove your dedication. Overall, Pausch’s lecture is less about dying and more about living well, and that’s what makes it unforgettable.