Personal Essay Outline

# Opening

1. Do you remember the first time you were by yourself?
2. I was scared and kept wondering what could happen.
3. I would be all alone and if I needed help no one could come help me.
4. I was upset because I would leave the people that mattered the most in my life.
5. My boyfriend who was with me everyday for the last 3 years.
6. My best friend who was going to college herself.
7. I was worried my relationship that I worked so hard on would be destroyed with my life changing decision of going to college.
8. I was worried I wouldn’t make any friends.

# Arriving at School

1. All these fears swarmed my head until I got there. And all the fears I had were coming true.

A.I was scared that no one would be there to help me.

B. No one was there, when I needed help with homework or when I was stressed I was left to comfort myself, but it wasn’t enough.

a. I didn’t have friends in my class I could ask questions or study with.

b. I had to worry about how to take crare of myself and always make sure I knew when to start dinner, what to cook, when to do laundry or even when to get up in the morning.

C. Leaving everyone I cared about left me with no one. I was forced to make new friends. No one really “clicked” with me.

a. I have roommates, but we have nothing in common. Some are older and have college experience and weren’t looking or new friends.

b. We grew up differently and live differently. They are messy and never clean up after themselves while I never left a crumb behind.

D. My relationship was becoming difficult. Not having the one person who was with me every day, I was alone.

a. When I needed a simple hug or wanted to cry, the one person I needed wasn’t there.

b. We needed each other to survive, we were as cliché as it came. Were better together.

c. We take care of each together making sure we always ate. He always came when I called and was what made me smile everyday.

# My solution

1. I needed a solution and fast.
2. I was trying to figure out what would make me happier.
3. I wanted to leave school and drive 2,000 miles home where I had family, friends, and especially my boyfriend (or I would say my love but that’s up to you)
4. Ship my boyfriend out here because he is my safe place.
5. Transfer to a school closer to home so I would feel protected.
6. Find a friend to not be feel completely alone.
7. I shipped my boyfriend out here, but it wasn’t good for him.
8. He was away from his own family, his job, and the only place he has ever been.
9. When my boyfriend was here, he said he would drive home with me.
10. I didn’t have a plan once I was home.
11. I needed my degree to get a good job for my future.
12. I then considered transferring schools when I got home.
13. I realized I wouldn’t be able to afford another school.
14. I wouldn’t be able to transfer all my credits.
15. No other school had the degree I wanted.
16. I finally decided that I can’t go home.
17. I needed to find a new friend to make my experience bearable.
18. I had tried finding friends that went to my school, so I decided to try something new. What else could I do?

# Finding Bruce

1. I needed the right solution.
2. I was running out of ideas and then finally something came to me.
3. A puppy to give me purpose. To give me something to take care of and to take care of me. A furry companion to have while being alone and feeling miserable.
4. I took a few weeks to think about this responsibility.
5. I knew this would take up my time and result it late night walks and dog training.
6. I knew that, and wanted the responsibility because it would be worth it.
7. I searched day and night, doing research and visiting other dogs.
8. I finally came across the one. A light eyed corgi mix with red fur. Only 6 weeks at the time I knew it would be a challenge.
9. The first few weeks of having this puppy was the best few weeks I had had since I came to school.
10. The puppy brought me outside everyday and we played. Random people walking would come and say hi to him.
11. My puppy began to love my roommates as well. He runs out to them when they walk in the door.
12. I started to open up to people around me. My roommates and I started having real conversations and doing things on the weekend.
13. I started to talk to people in my class and had people to help me when I needed it.

# Closing

1. When I first began on this new journey, I felt a heavy dark cloud over me constantly.
2. I was missing the people closest to me and anxious about what the future would hold.
3. Going through this change was hard not only on me, but my boyfriend.
4. We need eachother and nothing would be the same without him.
5. Even though these challenges I faced felt like they would never be solved, they did.
6. A little furball of sunshine makes me feel needed.
7. He gets excited when I come home.
8. He gives me cuddles at night when I am crying.
9. He is my comfort away from home.
10. This puppy has brought me closer to my roommates and even my boyfriend.
11. He takes me out of my comfort zone and makes me feel wanted.
12. He was not what I was expecting when I thought of needing to make a friend at school.