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SPCOM 100

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Storying my Experience (SPCOM 100 Final Assignment)

In my family hard work is more important than results and many stories that I have been told reflect that. None are more prevalent than the story of my grandfather, as I explain in my creative component, he went through so much yet he never let it define him. He went from everything to nothing and back to everything all through his hard work and it was because of his virtues that our family treated him as an expert leader.

This narrative has been incredibly impactful in my life as it taught me that things will always get better and that no matter what happens I need to try my best to not let it define m. In fact, I am writing this just after my girlfriend broke up with me after telling me she still loves me and wants to be my friend while also on the midst of some of the biggest exams of my life. This narrative of trying my best and things getting better really helps as it puts things into perspective, my grandfather went through so much more and made such an amazing life for himself so I can do the same! While not the central maxim, my grandfathers story also taught me a lot about forgiveness, and how holding things in is often much worse then just letting things go.

I do not think this narrative is universally good however and there is many situations where taking a break and making sure that your ok is more important pushing forward. For example, my oldest sister was on Team Canada for rhythmic gymnastics and while she loved the sport, she ended up developing many eating disorders and was unhappy every single day. She wanted to continue to push through and try her best but she ended up taking a break from gymnastics, and in my opinion this was one of the best decisions she’s ever made as she’s so much happier now and very successful as a chemistry major at Rice University.

This narrative is not accepted completely throughout my family, as my uncle often argues that living a relaxed life free of hardship is more important then living a life of always trying your best. Because my mother and my uncles run the company my grandfather handed down, a lot of tension results from my uncle wanting a relaxed life as he constantly trying to sell what my grandfather left while my mother wants to preserve it. As well I think that ever since my grandfather passed away additional tension is generated as every family member tries to establish themselves as an “expert leader” through some kind of merit that my grandfather’s story demonstrated.

While this narrative is divisive and does have its drop backs, the story of my grandfather and its maxim has shaped me to be the person I am now, I’m proud to be his grandson.