

Who are you?

How as a person are you connected to me?

Can you share a significant turning point in your life and how it impacted you?

Was there a specific person or mentor who played a role in this turning point in your life?

If you could go back and change this turning point or any others in your life would you? If so, why?

*all poems written using chatgpt

Nyah Maree

1. Who are you?

2. How as a person are you connected to me?

I know Nyah from a major turning point in my life; moving to Chicago for college. I was excited to live away from home and having good roommates like Nyah made the experience worthwhile and unforgettable.

3. Can you share a significant turning point in your life and how it impacted you?

In 2020 Nyah left North Carolina to go to Chicago and pursue a career in film. She decided that she wanted more from her quaint life in her small town than what was being offered.

4. Was there a specific person or mentor who played a role in this turning point in your life?

Nyah's grandmother was what impacted his decision as well as many others in her life.

5. If you could go back and change this turning point or any others in your life would you? If so, why?

She views her life as content and flowing. When confronted with this question she answers, "I don't think I would change anything since my experiences both good and bad influenced my current morals or thought process when making decisions."

Daniela Castro

1. Who are you?

I am a 21 year old female Latina of Mexican descent who was born and raised in the United States. I also know Dani as a visual artist and phenomenal dancer.

2. How as a person are you connected to me?

Dani is one of my closest and best friends. I had met her through another close friend who left her home in Vietnam. I consider Dani someone who has given me a lot of advice and makes Chicago a place I could see myself staying.

3. Can you share a significant turning point in your life and how it impacted you?

My junior year of high school I realized that I did not want to be a teacher. I instead chose a career path that would allow me to do the things I enjoy such as dance and art.

4. Was there a specific person or mentor who played a role in this turning point in your life?

I would say the biggest influence was myself. As self-centered as it may sound I give myself credit for listening to myself and creating a community of friends and family that support me. If I was stuck being a teacher and following those expectations, I would not be happy nor would I have met and evolved as the person I have become today.

5. If you could go back and change this turning point or any others in your life would you? If so, why?

I would go back not to “change” anything. I live by this motto “everything happens for a reason” and that applies to everything and anything even if we do not end up knowing that reason. I believe that the things that happen to us and the decisions that we make are what builds the people and individuals that we are today. I would go back to observe those events from a different perspective to better understand.

Daniela Castro

Life is a winding road with twists and turns,
Some choices we make, some lessons we learn,
I love art and dance, and being a teacher was once my dream,
But now I know, it's not the path for me.

I am my own mentor, my guide in life,
I listen to my heart and let my passions drive,
I've built a community of friends and family so dear,

Who support me and cheer me on without fear.

I live by the motto that everything happens for a reason,
Even the challenges and setbacks that may come in any season,
I don't want to change anything from my past,

But learn from them and grow, for my future is vast.

The decisions we make shape who we become,
And the experiences we have help us overcome,
I love who I am and who I want to be,

An artist, a dancer, living life carefree.

So let us cherish every moment, every step,
For they lead us to where we want to be kept,
I'll dance to the beat of my own drum,

And be the best version of myself, that's the outcome.