**Personal Literacy Statement – Tanuj Dargan V01040822**

Writing drafts.... feels more like being drafted into the army. As someone who wrote countless number of Essays upwards of 1000 words, this assignment should feel like nothing for me right?

Yet somehow it feels like the most daunting task I've been assigned since I've gotten to university. I often find myself working on a single draft that includes versions of my shitty, good, and terrific edition[[1]](#footnote-1) drafts as well.

My Computer Science Extended Essay. for example, had several documents with the title FINAL, FINAL FINAL, FOR SURE FINAL. That was a rare occurrence for me, which subsequently placed me in an uncomfortable situation as I thought to myself "I'm ruined". [[2]](#footnote-2) This, in turn, led to additional turmoil, causing heightened levels of demotivation and procrastination in the subject I had once loved immensely.

As I pull up my sleeves, stretch my neck out until it gives off a \*crack\* sound and get into the zone of being the academic weapon I am [[3]](#footnote-3), I start to overthink and come up with different ways I could present my thoughts. Unlike Lamott and my Extended Essay, I tend to "let it all pour out and then let it romp all over the place" [[4]](#footnote-4) as if "no one was going to see it" 4 until I come back scampering around the revision history editing my essay/paper into the state I want it to be in. While I keep myself occupied with that, the music that's supposed to help me focus slowly takes over and I lose track of what it is that I was trying to communicate. However, during the university application process, this proved beneficial, allowing me to review my work, identify errors, and ideate, which inherently led me to UVIC. On some rare occasions I have found myself to work in autopilot mode especially in my Extended Essay, where it feels like I've been writing about a topic I am well acquainted with for so long that I just let my sub conscious mind cook up my essay. [[5]](#footnote-5)

To add, throughout my high school years, the feeling of "you can either type or kill yourself." [[6]](#footnote-6) has often overshadowed the quality of my work. I noticed this becoming extremely prevalent during the last few weeks of final 12th grade submissions for my Theory of Knowledge Essay. I began writing for the sake of getting the task done and not trying to work according to the rubrics or the thoughts I wanted to express.

In contrast to academic writing, I find myself running away from reading academic writing even more. While I enjoy casually reading romance, horror, and murder mystery novels like "Before the Coffee gets cold", reading research papers makes me want to "study my teeth in the mirror for a while".[[7]](#footnote-7)

Moreover, while working on essays for daunting subjects like Maths, it would feel like the critic, or the teacher is sitting on my shoulders [[8]](#footnote-8) looking over every single word I write and judging me for it. Although I have never made a low effort submission, I still feel like I had an opportunity to improve every single time. However, in cases like my high school IB Internal Assessments, it seemed my work quality dramatically improved as the deadline approached. While I may seem like someone who thrives under pressure the irony is that, despite disliking last-minute efforts, I still submit assignments at 11:59 pm on the due date. To end on a good note, I did submit this assignment a day before the deadline, I guess getting something down on paper [[9]](#footnote-9) does really work.

**Bibliography:**

Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf.

Word Spell Check

1. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 01. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 05. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
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5. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1- Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 07. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 02. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
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8. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 06. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Lamott, Anne. Shitty First Drafts. 1994, wrd.as.uky.edu/sites/default/files/1-Shitty%20First%20Drafts.pdf. Paragraph 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)