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ELA 11

June 9, 2013

Endo of Course Reflection Outline

Introduction

- People will try to change you, but sometimes it doesn't work
- LDJIN & OFOTCN

Body

- Passionate about: learning, growing
- Connection: Experiences shape who you are, other individuals don't

Conclusion

- Affect passion by: Keeping me in line with reality. Things happen. Get over it.

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End of Course Reflection

Flow down the path of life is similar for everyone. Staying true to yourself is always important, though, no matter how many parallels to the rest of the world you have. In *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, uniformity was key to survival. Patients were trained to be the same and were punished if they strayed from the preset path. The opposite was true in *Long Day's Journey into Night*. The family wanted James Tyrone to change and he just couldn't, no matter how conscious he was of his flaws. Truly the people in your life can attempt to change you, but try as they might, it doesn't work. There are little specks of personality that leak out, unreserved and ready for the world. They never run out.

People will try to change you with only their words, but sometimes, it doesn't work. The only thing that can change you is experience. For Chief, it was witnessing McMurphy's foolery and Nurse Ratched's downfall that brought out his old self. For Tyrone, it was his childhood where every penny had to be saved and cherished that made him realize the value of a dollar and never want to waste money. For me, experience from my summer at Brown and afterschool programs kept me wanting to learn and grow more than I already had, and it became somewhat of a passion. I grow through my experiences and they change who I am every day. It's something I enjoy, and I don't ever want to stop.

The chance to indulge curiosity is something that constitutes learning and growing. I will have to go through the ordeal of experiencing and digesting something new to make my character stronger. This doesn't mean that every experience will change me, though, and that can be a good thing. If everything changed me, including people's words, I would never be stable. Overall, the revelation that experience can equal change makes exploring worth it. I will seek out experience in an attempt to learn more about myself and the world around me. They'll be experiences that take me out of my shell and allow me to learn at my own pace, be it taking a walk in a new park or going to college far away from home.