Donovan Hart

ENG 100

Formal Assignment #1

12 October 2017

Stopped at a red light, I look in my review mirror and notice a stain on the collar of my favorite blue work shirt this shirt was my favorite shirt because it was the only shirt that wasn’t stained and it matched my favorite work tie. In frustration I tightly grip my steering wheel until my fingers come across a ripped piece of leather. I start peel a large piece of leather off of my decaying steering wheel, until I’m interrupted by the cassette adapter that I purchased from Five Below, quits playing My favorite song “All the small things” by Blink-182. While I bend and spin the aux cord waiting for the music to start playing, I hear a loud HONK from the shiny black Infinity behind me. I quickly hit the gas and continue to drive down 420 Until my gas light turns on. I decide to pull into a Wawa to fill up my tank. While I approach the line I see my friend who I graduated with, Jake who was wearing the same work shirt, and tie as I am. When I approached Jake I could still smell the laundry detergent lingering off of his clothing, mixed with the coffee that he was holding. He soon tells me about how he just finished his last final at Delaware County Community College, and that he will be closing the store tonight, but he will soon have to quit when he moves to West Chester to start school next fall, until the miserable Wawa cashier yells “I can help who’s next” As I hand him my last $20 bill from my wallet I ask him to put it onto pump 8 please, and receive silence in return.

As the Saturday Sun rises my mother and father decide to get ready for breakfast at Nifty Fifties, as I would love to join them I simply cannot. I have to go to work. While my parents exit the house with a smile on their face, I proceed to getting dressed in my uniform, I do the usually Clean off my work shoes, tuck in my shirt, tie my tie, and push my hair to the side. As I check the time I realize that time has gotten the best of me and I had to leave the house, to be on time. On my commute I stop at Wawa to get my regular coffee with 3 packets of sugar and a dash of milk. While in line I see my neighbor James wearing his West Chester shirt with a nice pair of shorts, he approaches me happily and ask me if I would like to join him on his adventure to the mall to buy a new cooler for his uncle’s house in wildwood for Memorial Day weekend. I wanted to go to go but I told him that I cannot and must go to work, and explained how I was running late, I walk into the doors as soon as my shift starts, at 10am to start my pointless day, of doing the same old repetitive routines. After my third 12 hour shift of the week is over, I do my typical routine of driving home, showering, going to bed. This routine continues for another week.

I wake up on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend watching all of my friend’s Snapchat stories seeing the adventure’s they have partaken in, swimming, drinking, relaxing, and listening to music. As I continue to scroll through the Snapchats my phone starts to vibrate. I answer the phone and as I answer the phone my friend Jake invites me over to hangout, I come over with the intentions of celebrating Memorial Day weekend. When I walk through his front door, I’m confronted with the smell of chocolate chip cookies, and with Jake sitting at his dining room table with his Mac book in front of him talking to a Financial Aid worker, trying to receive assistance on completing an issue with his Financial Aid. When he hangs up, he asks me how’s work been?

I reply “Dude it sucks its good now money, but it consumes my life and is relatively terrible money.”

He replies with “I know, I can’t wait till I’m able to quit after this Summer and move away to West Chester to focus on a real career”

Jake enters the kitchen where he removes the cookies from the oven. This is when I take a seat at his dining room table and look at his laptop and see the Financial Aid website already open.

Jake speaks loudly from the kitchen and ask “So have you been looking into finding a new job, or thought about returning to school”

“No, I’ve been very busy.”

“We have time now if you want to apply to school”

“But It’s Memorial Day Weekend, I thought we could like go get drunk?”

….

What felt like a few minutes of silence passed where I decided to slide his laptop in front of me and I click the green button that says “Start A New FAFSA”. I begin to answer a few of the questions, the questions started out easy such as my name, and my address. Then the questions began to get detailed, Where I needed to get my parent’s tax information. I continued to answer the questions, a few hours pass and I finally completed my FAFSA, applied to DCCC, and scheduled an appointment to take my placement test. During the time that I would usually spend playing on my phone, or scrolling through Instagram or Snapchat, I was able to accomplish some major first steps, Jakes phone starts to ring from the kitchen where he answers the phone, I can make out that he is talking about a BBQ, when he enters the room he says

“Now it’s time to get drunk”

After continuing the rut for another few weeks, I run to get into my car, to attempt to avoid being soaked by the relentless thunderstorm that was taking place, over the last week I decided to clean, and fix up a bit. There was a new steering wheel cover on it that fit the wheel just perfect and you would never know that the wheel it’s self was so worn, I plug my phone into a new cassette adapter and play shuffle where the song “Not Today” comes on by Twenty-one Pilots. On the way to take my placement test I hit ever possible right light that existed, and every puddle. After making it through all of the red lights. I can see the Delaware County Community College sign through my violently swinging windshield whippers, when I pull into the winding road that takes me to the parking lot, I could see the sun peak out above the clouds, for the first time all day. I continue down the winding road for another minute where I’m given the gift of front row parking, by time I park my car unplug my phone from the cassette adaptor I’m greeted with sunshine. I open my car door looking around as the clouds continue to move further away from me, I look back at the school take a deep breathe, and enter the school.