

Ashlee Piasecki

Eng 100

Bettering Myself

If I have to think about what I am going to write about in my life choice memoir, I would have to say it would be my decision to come back to school. I never really think any of my decisions effect my life, even when I know they really do. I am the kind of person who makes a decision and then just goes with the flow afterwards. I think coming back to school was a good decision for me to make, that I know will forever affect the rest of my life. If I choose not to continue with school after this semester, then I know I still have something that I had a hard time choosing and that I actually allowed myself to go through with. Coming back to school was a big choice for me, mostly because I have always hated school. Always. The only class I ever enjoyed or even did well in was my English classes. If I didn't do well, it was only because I didn't apply myself, and to be honest, there was very little I applied myself to in school. I always hated authority figures, for a long time I hated feeling stupid. I felt like I was ultimately too stupid to come back to school. I left my high school after tenth grade to do cyber school, where I chose the easiest classes just to scrape by and get an actual diploma. In turn, I deprived myself of actual knowledge and that went to waste in my recent years. I graduated in 2012, the same year as I would have if I stayed in my high school, but I graduated late. Over the years I yearned for actual knowledge. I hated working at the jobs I was working in, not being able to do basic math in my head because I couldn't even remember the process of how to solve something without a calculator. Coming back to school was a big choice for me because I was, and still am, afraid of failing. There are still some days where I come here, and I question myself like "what am I doing?! I will never make it to where I want to be." I know that I shouldn't think that way, because I know that I am doing just fine. I am just tired. That has always been my way of thinking, though. "I am just tired, I'll deal with it later." That gets me absolutely nowhere. I had a hard time choosing a major because I couldn't think of anything at all that I would want to be doing for the rest of my life. I couldn't even fathom the idea of spending a shit ton of money, just to be indecisive and not have a career for what I paid all the money for in the first place. I hate the idea of being in debt forever. I know that going to school for being a vet is expensive and the thought of paying for it forever really bothers me. I always back up my indecisiveness with the fact that neither of my parents have education past high school, however they both have great paying jobs and careers. As I get older I realize that I really don't have any other choice but to come to school. Despite how much I am being paid in any of my recent jobs, I hate it. I hate it there. I hate waking up everyday to go to a place that mentally drains me. I hate some of my coworkers and don't want to deal with another person most days. Since I have a phone obligated job, I don't even want to call friends or family or answer my phone for anything or anyone when I get off work. I just spoke to twenty to thirty something people that don't mean anything to me and I don't mean anything to them either. They take everything out of me. I don't say it to be mean or intolerant, but the things I find myself in are just draining and mentally demanding. If I am going to have a career that is mentally draining, I want it to drain me in a good way. I want it to be something that I love and care enough about to go to school for and work hard for. Being drained now due to work and school, is worth it to get to where I want to be. I know that I most likely will be in the same spot I am in if I don't apply myself to something I care about. I know that I will not get to where I want to be without putting a little work in. If I don't put the work in

now, I will be draining myself in the wrong ways and still never learning anything or becoming any better. Now that I am expecting my first child, I want to be better for them. I want to have a career that I love and that I can support them and have something they can be proud of me for. I want to give them something that they can also look up to and know that they can get there as well with hard work. The saying is cliché, but you can literally do anything you put your mind to. My own brain and fears were keeping me down and its crazy how it can keep you in a spot that you don't need or don't want to be in. the brain will actually rationalize these stupid things for you! I think I really started to think about how irrational it was that I had these fears of being stupid. You stay stupid if you make yourself stay stupid. They only way to get to where you need to be is to make yourself uncomfortable. I had a panic attack the night I came here to even register for classes for crying out loud. That was another way of my brain keeping me where I was, even if I knew I did not want to be there. I feel like I am starting to mostly get over the fear, and it helps that I am enjoying at least this class. I still hate my math class but I have always hated math and the teachers as well. I also know that the career I want will take a lot of math so I guess right now it is just practice. I can't get better if I don't do the simple stuff now. I will work hard and get to where I need to be. Period.

Session word count 1140