

Genre Exploration Final

Less than five months

As the days seem to pass so slowly, time continues to move on.
It seems as though my strength would increase.
That I would become numb. I am numb.
I suppose that I have become stronger.
Walking around in a daze.
What is going to happen next?
When will the next shoe drop?
Searching for the positive in what seems to be a huge pile of shit.
Doing my very best to remain optimistic.
My heart shattered to pieces. Searching for the superglue to somehow piece this nightmare together.
It seems that on that hot July day this vivid nightmare started.
I could never have fathomed such a horrific experience.
Just starting to heal, then once again my feet kick out from underneath me, roughly five months again another nightmare.
Just starting to heal, then once again my feet kicked out from underneath me, roughly five months again,
Trying to heal and yet five months later, my feet kicked out from underneath me again!
Is the strength coming?
Am I beginning to see the light once more?
The Serenity prayer on my desk,
my nightly prayers,
strength in family,
my love for God,
and my strong faith in him.

Blessings in Disguise

Blessings in disguise?
Does anyone realize?
The journey of life. Ups and downs.
Lessons to be learned, lessons to be taught.
Where does one begin and one end? Which lesson is next?
Struggles and successes, goals and dreams realized.
Goals and dreams shattered. New dreams to come?
The journey of life seems to only have begun.

Genre Exploration Writer's Memo

I chose to work with free verse poetry because it is something that I have always had a very strong interest in. I am often very busy with my Master's courses and my career and I honestly do not have the time to work on many things that I would like to. In this course I was given the opportunity to work on poetry and I took advantage of it.

Through exploring poetry I learned that it is most important to get your ideas and thoughts on paper. Revisions and additional ideas that you may want to share can be focused on later. While correcting and revising my own poetry I read my poems aloud and was able to hear what the reader would hear. By doing this I was able to notice the overall message and sound of the poems. I then was able to revise my poems to create a final copy that was to my liking. I found this to be a very useful tool that I would not have known had it not been for this course.

I was able to share the process of revising poems with my students during the poetry unit that was covered for my Teaching Project. Students were able to expand their knowledge of poetry and revise their poems as well. Students read their poems aloud to notice grammatical errors, as well as pieces of the work that they may have wanted to change or expand on.

I have been searching for ways to release some confusion and sadness about life-changing events that have occurred over the past two years. In my poem "Less Than Five Months" I briefly referred to the suicide of my cousin, the death of my fiancé, my mother's liver transplant, and my father's diagnosis of lung cancer. I often am at a loss and do not know who to turn to. Through this project I was able to revisit a way a way of self-expression that I had almost forgotten about. I was also able to explore my feelings and myself without adding any unnecessary stress to the lives of my family and friends.

While working on my first draft I was able to type what was on my mind, to get it off my chest, so to say. Then after a few days I revisited my poem and made a few minor changes that I found to better my poem. I feel that at this time my poem is complete, yet I know that there is always room for improvement.

After completing my Genre Exploration Project on poetry I have found that there are many options and avenues I have yet to discover. I have found a small sense of peace through writing and plan on continuing to use poetry as an outlet. I look forward to learning more about poetry and the benefits it will have on my life. I am also looking forward to implementing more poetry in my classroom.

Genre Exploration 1st Draft

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That I would become numb.
I suppose in such a sense I have.
Walking around in a daze.
What is going to happen next?
When will the next shoe drop?
Searching for the positive in what seems to be a huge pile of negative.
I do my very best to remain optimistic.
My heart shattered to pieces, constantly searching for the superglue to somehow piece this nightmare together.
It seems that on that hot July day this vivid nightmare started.
I could never have fathomed such a horrific experience, let alone the nightmare that would follow less than five months later.
Just starting to heal, then once again my feet kick out from underneath me, roughly five months again.
Just starting to heal, then once again my feet kicked out from underneath me, roughly five months again,
Trying to heal and yet about five months later, my feet kicked out from underneath me again!
The strength is coming.
I am beginning to see the light once more.
The Serenity prayer on my desk, my nightly prayers, strength in family, love of God, and my strong faith in him.

Genre Exploration 2nd Draft

As the days seem to pass so slowly, time continues to move on.
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