

Autoethnographic Possibilities

Hallmark Qualities of Autoethnographic Essays	Inayatulla's "Literate Vixens and Shameless Hijabis"	Rainey's "Her Own Voice"	Spieldenner's "Statement of Ownership"
Structural qualities of the essay	She describes events in chronological order. Inayatulla's auto-ethno spans a large swath of her life, clear references are made to her early childhood and later adolescence and young adulthood- she is able to preserve narrative cohesion by keeping themes of religion and familial structures/ethics in her whole piece, continually referencing past dynamics or particular family members. Inayatulla's Introduction hooks the reader in her essay. Telling the reader what to expect, "This chapter explores the critical awakening of a brown queer muslim". Subheadings to organize her arguments and to indicate breaks in her narrative. Situates topic on personal connection between religion and science. Uses outside sources to contextualize her personal experiences.	Rainey expresses her feelings and thoughts of her bipolar disorder. She provides experiences on how she had to maintain bipolar disorder while having to deal with her family and job. She occasionally mentions things from her past she's dealt with, and both the positive and negative consequences of her actions. Rainey uses " * " to separate her sections Introduces what an autoethnography is in the beginning using italics. Introduces topic by citing research.	Spieldenner uses separate subsections for all the points he's trying to make in the essay. Spieldenner provides historical context towards victims and the author's reflections of their experience of HIV and AIDS in the process of keeping it quiet then transitioning to starting medication and the rise of awareness towards HIV/AIDS. Starts with an academic abstract. Situate their topics within research at the beginning of the essay to introduce the topic. He labels the end of his essay "Conclusion" to conclude his findings of the topic.

	Introduces what an autoethnography is in the beginning using italics.		
Stereotype(s), stigma(s), or cultural conversation in which the essay intervenes	Queerness in a conservative community ends up in hostile environment in queer persons life which results with different amount of mental health crisis Higher Education being both an object of praise and a force of corruption, her parents being proud and wary of college being a corrupting influence in turning her into a homosexual (a dirty word). Continual contrast between the “first and third worlds” How each world does something “better or worse” than the other. Colorism is rife in her life; she is constantly compared to that one cousin that lives in the old country that died under precarious circumstances. Her skin is something of extreme value to her family until it is marred by tanning- something completely natural. Although briefly mentioned, being completely surrounded by her culture yet simultaneously being outside it because she is illiterate in Arabic; language poses a barrier to her to the point that Arabic is something she is allergic to. . She has to lie about being allergic to hot dogs so others don’t find out she’s Muslim.	Mental health is an ugly label - Individuals with mental health are often labeled as not being able to control their emotions, incapable, erratic or not predictable, and not being rational not being . - People struggling with mental health are weak, bad and dangerous. - Unpredictable - People think those with mental health are dangerous when in reality they’re usually endangering themselves. - People usually don’t think those with mental illness can be good or safe to be around. - Entertainment either vilifies those with mental illness or portrays them in a positive light while showing their condition doesn’t have to define them.	Stereotypes around HIV and queer communities Having HIV as a man of color - Having HIV makes you “dirty” - HIV and AIDs is perceived as only happening to gay people. - People believe HIV/AIDS is spread like a normal disease when it’s only spread through contact with bodily fluid like blood. -

	Inner conflict between being loyal to her Muslim roots and outsider temptation (being or acting 'christian', being or acting sexual, etc etc). - Religion influences decision making negatively. - S Her essay focuses a lot on her religion and traditions, which are the main conflict in her personal life.		
Describe the kinds of sources the author uses	She mentions things her parents taught her and commented on the news. She uses fairy tales such as Snow White and Rapunzel which are deeply embedded in the cultural psyche, as well as in the public domain. Passing references and allusions to Quranic/Biblical elements. Works of Feminist and queer theory. She uses Audre Lorde in her essay, probably because Lorde was a feminist and activist and lesbian. Her personal notes from her days in Undergraduate studies. Citations of outside sources, not necessarily research proper, more so academic essays and other literary works. She uses outside sources to support her commentary whenever she needs it. Autism	She uses actual research and commentary to discuss how Bipolar disorder has affected her life. Citation of outside academic sources.	Many different sources about HIV and different sources about LGBTQ communities and their struggle through the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Citation of academic sources/research.
What else? What	The author seems to have a fear of being	Rainey mentions her youth	We learn he was secretive

do we learn about the author themselves? What other devices or qualities are you noticing in the essay?	hated by her parents and neighbors for being queer and Islamic.	and how it has affected her forever. Rainey mental health builds up emotions from past mistakes. - Rainey mentions her postpartum depression and how that label was put to blame for her emotions. - We learn that the author has revelation about being the individual in her family that was the smart one, when it she found that she was not as intelligent as she perceived herself. These are further examples of how she is has these ingrained perceptions and ideas about herself and others. Despite things like this being proven wrong. For instance, with students she attended college with.	about having HIV/AIDS because he was afraid of being isolated and alienated by his peers, only to find out there are others like him who encourage not letting the disease define them.
---	--	--	--

TOPIC BRAINSTORMING

HEALTH

Autism
Anxiety / Social Anxiety
OCD
Neurological Disorders
Alcoholism

FAMILY

Adoption
Mixed/found family
Family structures (being the child of a single parent or divorced parents)
Generational differences/clashing
Parenting
Birth order: Youngest/Middle/Oldest or Only-Child Experiences
Familial Neglect

DISCRIMINATION

Religious Conflict/tension
Gender stereotypes
Societal Norms
Cultural norms
Racism
EDUCATION DISCRIMINATION—how labels in education are flawed
Coming out / sexuality
Language Barrier/discrimination— Being a “no sabo” kid

LOSS

Death (loss of loved one, sudden death, Covid trauma)

Dealing with grief

POPULAR CULTURE (not sure this is the right way to name this category)

Workplace-related experiences (how customers/clients treat employees in different industries)

Assumptions in Sports (athletes not being taken seriously academically; or some sports being valued as more “athletic” than others)