

Heather Towell

English Student, Arizona State University

English 101: First Year Composition

Professor Loren Gladwill

January 10, 2024

REFLECTIONS ON WRITING AND COMPOSITION

Taking a Look Back

Looking back on my experiences with writing and composing, I find that there is one constant no matter what discipline I am writing in, and that constant is the fact that I like to write with a rhythm that almost feels like a well-loved song. It's a style that doesn't make you feel like you're reading an unending loop of choppy sentences that leave you feeling like you're hanging from a cliff. Instead, it's a style that makes you feel that underneath the surface, there is something moving, something swimming, and something that is alive beyond the words and phrases, that somehow...some way, have transported you into a an entirely new world.

The reason that this has always been a constant in the way that I write is because for a large portion of my life, I was a singer/songwriter. Wherever I went, there was a spring in my step and a song in my heart, and those two things have managed to manifest themselves quite clearly on the pages of anything that I have written in my life, whether I have been writing a song for a well-known artist, or writing a legal brief for a difficult case. That cadence, that rhythm and that spark has always been there. And it has always kept my readers coming back for more.

One example of this style of writing would be a piece that I just recently wrote in a Facebook post called "The Eleventh Hour." It's about me in a sense...pursuing a college degree in the "second half" of my life. In this piece, I use the story of Sarah in the Bible as an analogy of my plight, to illustrate that is never too late to fulfill your dreams.

The Eleventh Hour

“Sarah, in the Old Testament, wife of Abraham was childless until she was 90 years old. God promised Abraham that she would be “a mother of nations” (Genesis 17:16) and that she would conceive and bear a son, but Sarah did not believe. Isaac, born to Sarah and Abraham in their old age, was the fulfillment of God’s promise to them.

When you give up on yourself, and you think that you’re too old to give birth to your dreams, God gives life to those dreams and makes them possible because nothing is impossible when God is in charge! And when that impossible dream does come true despite how old you are or how much others have counted you out, everyone including yourself will KNOW that the only explanation for that dream becoming a reality, will be because God Himself chose you to live out your dream at the very moment that the world said it was too late. And why did he choose that moment...that 11th hour of your life to make that dream a reality? He did so in order to demonstrate that HIS WILL AND HIS POWER is stronger than any time, any age, any doubt, any setback, any sickness, any foolishness, and any challenge in this world! God is STILL the God of miracles. That’s why He is STILL the God of the Eleventh Hour!!

Taking a Look Forward

Looking forward in my writing career, I would like to focus more on the visual media options that I have available to me in this ever-changing digital world. I'd like to learn how to incorporate these new visuals in a way that would enhance my business proposals and presentations in order to cause the company that I work for stand out from the competing professionals in my field. I would also like to work on incorporating new and creative ways to capture my audience's attention by engaging with them on a more personal level by asking them to also participate in the metacognition process as they read the proposals that I have written. Doing so will allow them to more empathetically and introspectively consider the options that I have presented to them before they make their final decisions on my proposal.

In conclusion, writing has been a journey that I have always enjoyed venturing on because it allows me the opportunity to reach into my reader's hearts and not just into their minds when they read the things that I have written. Moving forward, I'd like to keep that momentum going by adding more visual media to my writing and composition in order to seamlessly move my writing and composition into a more dynamic and exhilarating twenty-first century!



