

Artist's Statement

I really enjoyed reading this novel, it was nothing like anything I've ever read before. The way he so easily talked about his childhood, his writing style, and his story telling technique. I had never written anything like this, and reading Trevor's memoir really opened my eyes to all the other ways I could be writing. Trevor's writing style got me to be more casual while writing this, instead of how I usually write.

I tried my best to explain the culture of being a grandchild as best I could, even though it was kind of strange to illustrate. I had a hard time wrapping my head around being a grandchild being a culture. I had to write and rewrite what I had written so many times because it never came out right. I eventually wrote it the way I liked, and that's what you just read.

The story telling techniques I employed in this vignette are telling the story the way I talk, I attempted to make it personal the way Trevor did, I tried to tell the story the way I remember it, and to describe my grandparents the way they really are and make it seem like you had never talked to them before.

The essential question that is answered in my vignette is "what influences my identity?". The answer to that question is, my family. My family is a huge part of my life and they've turned me into the person I am. They've opened my eyes to new opinions, new thoughts, how to be the best person that I can, and so much more.

The connection from Noah's memoir that influenced me was the relationship I felt like I formed with his mom. It was hard not to get attached to her, she was a great character and just an overall interesting person. I loved the stories Noah told about him and her and the relationship they had. The relationship they had reminded me of the relationship I have with my mom. Constantly making jokes out of everything and chasing each other around. Patricia made Trevor who he is and he really displayed that in this novel.

Noah explored his sense of belonging and his identity in every single chapter. Whether it was him finding his belonging of his race, gender, relationship with his family, he was constantly discovering himself. In chapter nine, he talked a lot about how he had no sense of belonging in Eden Park. And then again in chapter eleven, he couldn't find a place to fit in at Sandringham High School. It was diverse, but he didn't know where to go.