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Senior Project

Description & Justification

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My Senior Project will be a writing project it will include 4 of my original poems, a three-part short story, and a video of an original two-part scene. The poems I will expect to write throughout the semester then get peer-reviewed and then I will edit one more time for the final draft. The three-part short story I will base on a prompt my professor gave me where I build solid characters then bring an action to them. The first part is from one perspective of the male main character and how he views this crisis. The second part is from the female's perspective and shows her thoughts. The third part will be a few months down the line when she wakes from her medically induced coma.

The original two-part scene will probably be the most challenging part because it challenges me to make a much larger project. I will eventually write an entire script that my friend and I are working on. These scenes will be a total of 15–20-minutes long. My plan for this script is to be about a woman going through life taking the ridicule of built-in images in other people's mindset of how she should be, but she chooses to do what makes her happy. I am titling this project *Unapologetically A Women* seeing that it will be about a young woman that is not sorry for her past decisions or presents ones. She chooses to do what makes her happy no matter how long it takes because it is her life. The scene I will be focusing on for this senior project is when a guy struggling to commit to a relationship comes over to the central character's place. This will occur after he had just found out something from her past from a co-worker at a bar, the

same bar he recently started managing for only about six months now. He had gone out drinking with his co-workers and is very upset about what they had to say about her and an act she committed on her 22nd birthday. The second scene will be about a woman who goes to the gym with her friend and encounters ex hookup. Here is where she witnesses him checking her out multiple yet never acknowledges her but dares to talk to several different women at the gym and eventually takes one home. She complains about him to her friend and when she realizes he decides to take someone how she confronts him and the girl with a massive outburst.

I am a creative writing minor and have taken poetry plus a few fiction short story classes. I started writing my poems and short stories for this project last semester and planned to edit and tighten them up for my senior project. Since I am writing this semester, I will pick which poems I want to choose closer to the end of the year for the chance that I could write one that I could be prouder of. For my short story, I will take what I am learning from my current class to go back in and clean up some details, but other than that, I finished this story at the end of last semester and am very proud of it.

The script is a work in progress as I started it this semester. I got inspired by my personal experiences and told them to my friend, who is in the Theatre and Dance program. Her name is Ra'chelle Hedgespeth and she got so inspired by it that she had to help me write my script by adding her personal experience into it. She and I had a very effortless agreement on the vision we saw for the scenes. We see a story-in-story plot where there are roughly three stories we want to work on and all their paths cross. A fun bit to share with you all is that I wrote my first scene for my senior project based on a night out with her before ever consulting or sharing anything about my idea for this script with her. We spend a lot of time together, so I have already made her a character in my script. By adding her personal experience to the story, it will add more depth to

not only give her character more of an arch but also add a perspective that I have not experienced as a woman.

The process of figuring out my senior project went a little like this. It turned out that my first scene was too short for my senior project and so I decided to add another scene instead. However, writing this project took more time and effort than I originally planned with all the other assignments I had to focus on during the semester. I did not discover that the scene I chose was too short until I started the filming of it which was bad planning on my part. Fortunately, my friend and I already wrote another scene for the script. Since this was so last minute into filming, we could not find another actor. So, I jumped in and just wore a hat to help differentiate the two different characters. I only decided to film this project as a table read since I focused more on the writing than the performance. Since I just had the actors and myself reading from the script, I decided to shoot only profile shots of everyone then stitch the videos together.

My goal for the project is to show my writing experience and my acting from the years I spent in college. By putting this all together, I hope to prove not only to myself how much I have learned but to others that my five years at this university went to good use. I am using my senior project to kick off my plans for after college. I want to eventually write this entire script in hopes of getting it published, maybe even turn it into a book as well. My hope for including my poetry and the short story is to put all my poems into a book and get it published as a collection of work I did through college. Same for my short story. I have read several collections of short stories this semester and I hope to see myself finish other collective works and put them all together for my book. For my script, I hope to write a journey of three women and their experience with men and to have their stories conjoin. I want to prove that you can be anyone you want to be, and I

want women to know they are not the labels society has pushed people to believe through this story. I like these women to find the love that they deserve in life.