

Interviewer: Okay [laughter]. I wonder, just as a grand tour question.

Interviewee: Okay.

Interviewer: How you would describe yourself as a writer?

Interviewee: It's something that just, I guess, evolved more so than anything else cuz I started out in high school. I was good in English. It was never really anything I thought about, and then I got to college and I did a little more, and I was still doing pretty well at it. I guess as a writer, I like doing it. It's a good way to, I guess, creatively express certain things, ideas, opinions or just creative writing in general. It's a good way to get stuff out that I can't verbalize that well, I guess.

Interviewer: Would you say you are a writer?

Interviewee: Yes.

Interviewer: Okay. How would you describe the role of writing in your life? You're saying it helps you express yourself, but are there other ways too or—

Interviewee: Other ways to express myself or other ways of writing?

Interviewer: The other types of roles that writing has for you in your life?

Interviewee: I guess writing also serves as a balance for me, cuz I'm a premed student actually, so I have a lot of science classes. Doing the writing helps balance things out, so I'm not focusing only on science or only on writing. It's also, I like reading things too. I mean, I don't know.

Interviewer: Yeah, I think that's good [laughter]. Has that changed for you since you've been at Michigan? How would you describe yourself, or would you describe yourself as a writer when you were first admitted to Michigan?

Interviewee: No, I wouldn't have, but I think I took my first English class winter of freshman year, and then I took another one fall of sophomore year. Then I took a scientific writing the winter of sophomore year. I kept taking writing classes, and eventually I was, "Hey, I like this. I'm kinda good at it," so that's when I looked into the writing program. Definitely not at the start of college, more towards the middle when I was getting interested in this program, I started to think of myself as more of a writer.

Interviewer: How would you say that you've grown? Are there ways that you can identify that?

Interviewee: I don't know if there's specific ways. I guess, I've learned to some degree what styles of writing fit better. The scientific writing class, it was a really interesting

class, and I loved what we learned, but the writing style, the scientific paper itself, was totally different than anything I've ever done. The first paper, I was unsure of, and the second paper I did much better on, but it was still, it was a totally different format. I've learned new types of formats and I've also learned which formats fit me better.

I think some of the more free form creative—especially personal narrative or anything where the voice is more open, I think is really kinda like, that's my style.