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Writing Manifesto

I believe the main purpose of writing is to reach people. When I read writing from different authors, my hope is to gain something from it. Whether that be new knowledge that I did not previously have, or a new perspective I gained from reading their work. A writer’s aims should be to both to uniquely reach their audience but to also be centralized around themselves. When a writer writes about their beliefs, their goal should be to educate others. When a writer writes about their passion, they should be writing in a way that is fulfilling and satisfying for them. Writing is a beautiful form of language where any writer has the ability to say a lot without really saying anything at all. They can be as transparent as they want, or as closed off and secretive as they wish. One of the true beauties to writing is interpretation. A writer could have one intention behind writing something specific; however, a reader could interpret the writing in a completely different way. For example, when I read Jamaica Kincaid’s ‘Girl’, I interpreted it as a mother telling her daughter what she can and cannot do. A classmate stated they interpreted it as Kincaid simply talking to herself. I felt this short story captured how degrading and strict it can be while growing up as a young woman. In contrast, another classmate felt this story was all about women empowerment. This example portrays just how vague writing can truly be and how much it is open to interpretation. In addition, I feel that the writer’s responsibility is to ensure the readers’ ability to interpret. I read one mystery novel where the mystery was never solved at the end of the book. At first, I was furious! I thought, “how could the author not provide me with closure to this story?” Then, I realized, again, this is the true beauty to writing. The writer is under no obligation to provide a reader closure.