

“Gray Matter” by Josh Weckesser

THOMAS:

Love. Noun: a feeling of strong attachment induced by that which delights or commands admiration; preeminent kindness or devotion to another; affection; tenderness.

“Whatever you do in your life, do it with love.”

My English teacher told me that on the last day of my senior year in high school (can change to middle school if age appropriate). He always was a bit melodramatic. He believed that all of his students would change the world one day.

On the last day he gave us lollipops and said, “Ignorance is enjoyable for a while, then you just end up with a wet stick.” I still don't really know what that means. But when he closed that dictionary on that last day of class I realized high school was over. There is something about the closing of a book that is final. The story ends.

It was then I couldn't help but remember freshman year. I remember how I felt then. I felt the youthful enthusiasm that life would begin at any moment and when it did I would rule the world. (*Pause.*) Why? Because it would be poetic and just. And Mr. McConnal said so. That man was a prop.