**Reflection on Summer 2014 Essay**

 Two years ago, I was still clueless about the concept of engineering. It seemed like a taboo for me to even think about it because I wasn’t smart enough for it. I had no clue what it’s about. After my summer in an engineering laboratory, the concept of engineering has become clearer and it’s pretty cool. Engineering is simply the application of knowledge to better improve a system – any system.

 After spending a summer listening to people talk about advanced mathematics and science, I’m accustomed to hearing words like “torque” or “algorithmic calibration” or “triple integral” because it’s a part of science and engineering. The stuff is pretty interesting. But, just like everything else, it’s hard! Thinking about the relevant concepts made my head ache for easy and simple. But, I don’t think that this swayed me away from pursuing engineering. It’s odd that many people thought I would be pursuing something from the STEM fields and they’re all shocked when they learn that I’m not going to pursue one of the STEM fields.

 To be frank, I’m not entirely sure why I’m not going to pursue engineering. Even though the material is hard, I’m not scared of it. It doesn’t frighten me to see the crazy symbols and letters in math and physics like it did when I was a little elementary school kid peeking at the older kid’s homework at the after school center. Perhaps, I don’t have a good reason for not pursuing engineering. Personally, the only reason I think I’m not pursuing engineering is because I have a childhood dream of becoming a lawyer focusing on international law. It scares me that I might regret not following that dream if I were to become an engineer.

 It’s funny how the human psyche works, isn’t it? Too bad I definitely don’t plan on studying psychology or neuroscience to better understand how the human subconscious functions and how its functions impact our daily behaviors.

**Reflection on Literary Letter**

Things Fall Apart is a PHENOMENAL book. I love it. It's the first book I've read in the African literature genre and it's amazing. You just have to be careful to not be distracted by the names of the characters. Otherwise, the messages and the stories are so different than what we're accustomed to in Western novels.

This is one of the first pieces that I ever received back in Creative Writing. Reading “OMG! Mr. Z, I had no idea you could write like this! Bravo!” was a huge confidence-booster for my writing skills. After reading that comment, going forward, I was not afraid to write what I wanted to write. I was not afraid to censor because I was afraid of it being terrible.

**Reflection on Georgetown Poem**

 Writing this poem helped calm my fears. I had an interview for Georgetown the next day and I wasn’t prepared for it at all. Simultaneously, the deadline to submit new pieces was coming up and I started combining some of the information together into a poem. Initially, I began writing stanzas of poetry before I noticed a pattern that every line started with the next letter in the alphabet. I was about four or five lines into the poem before I made the conscious decision to finish the poem with the pattern and order it goes in. Without realizing it, I finished the poem and prepared for my Georgetown interview together. (I showed my Georgetown interviewer a copy of the poem and she thought it was hilarious and amazing). Essentially, I killed two birds with one stone, but nobody likes killing birds, so shhhhhhhh.

**Reflection on Portfolio**

 I hope you enjoy browsing through what I have here on this website. It’s been quite the journey over the last five months and the last 17 years. There are just so many stories to tell, but not enough time to tell all the stories. Enjoy the stories that I’m sharing! :D