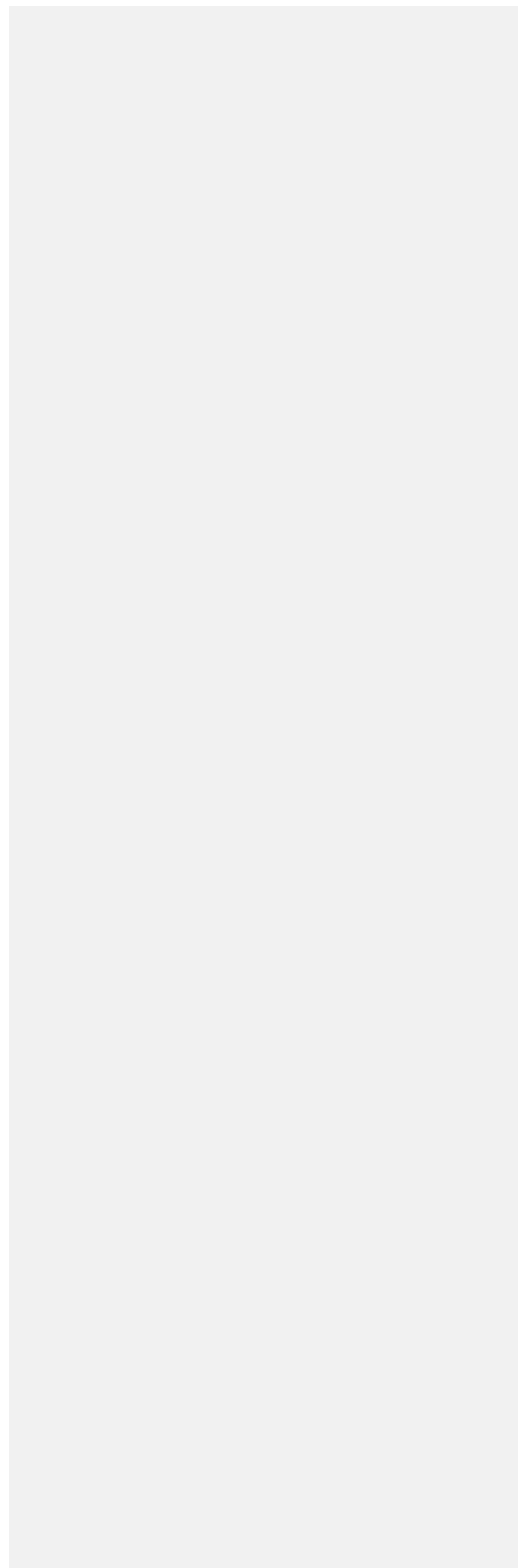


Taylor Stark

Revision Exhibit

*This paragraph is an excerpt from my first Paper in the class that focused on integrating personal experiences and song analysis. On hearing the prompt for the paper, I was intrigued and*



stars consisted of uncovering my purpose in life through the gifts I had been blessed with and the desires that were laid upon my heart.

*In my third draft, I focused on inserting deeper song analysis of the lines I included in my paragraph to strengthen my argument. Also, I reworded a sentence in order to properly compare the song and my own experience. After making these final adjustments, I feel as if the paragraph incorporates evidence, coherent analysis, and clear correlations that contribute to my paper's thesis.*

Third Draft:

In theory, there was nothing wrong with my love of the fictional world, but in reality, I loved the curiosities of these characters more than my own. It was not that I was some pitiful outcast, but my life was nothing out of the ordinary. Little did I know, that was all about to change. Similarly, in lines eleven and twelve of *Dream*, Ahn reflects on “long walks in the dark / through the woods grown behind the park”(ll.11-12). All of a sudden, the mood of the song takes a more serious, almost ominous, tone. The “long walks” (l. 11) through the “woods” (l.12) symbolize a strenuous, drawn out journey through a place or time filled with fearful uncertainty. In contrast, the following lines depict an image of “stars” (l.14) smiling “down at” (l.14) her, as an illuminating guide through the darkness. I entered my dark forrest when I came to the realization that real life was no longer playful or even prosaic, but rather it had become a trying struggle. In middle school and the beginning of high school my family was a broken, chaotic mess. From the outside, we appeared to have it all together. We were a well-off Christian family, but behind the façade was a group of divided people who were constantly consumed by the attitude of a workaholic and alcoholic father. In the midst of my pain, I turned to God for answers. The artist speaks of her asking God who she is “supposed to be”(l. 13) and that He “answered in silent reverie”(l. 15). The word choice “reverie” parallels with the motif of dreams because rather than God directly speaking to her, He shows her through the familiar dreamlike state that she has been enthralled with all along. Through my faith, I did not receive plainly dictated directions that I should take. Instead, my path of stars consisted of uncovering my purpose in life through the gifts I had been blessed with and the desires that were laid upon my heart.

**Commented [Taylor S7]:** Rather than just stating that the tone changes, I explain what in the song leads me to believe that.

**Commented [Taylor S8]:** I reworded this sentence so that it would tie into the previous thought mentioned about the song.