

Who Am I?

By Dominic Ortiz

Dedication:

This book is dedicated to my family and friends, because this book is mainly about them, what they do, and what they mean to me.

Preface:

What went into the making of this book was writing about me, my life, and my family/ friends. All the work in this book is a self-reflection of who I am and where I'm from. The theme of my book is black and white so everything in here is going to be old school. The way I designed my layout was I set pictures behind my writings so that you could see both the art and the words. The most challenging thing in the making of this all was trying to get everything done in the set amount of time and making sure it was all perfect and presentable. What went well would probably be finding the art and making everything look good although some of the art made it hard to see the words because they both blended in with each other. The purpose of my memoir was to tell about the relationship between me and my sister and before I edited it, it was about the relationship between me and my whole family so that was a lot more to talk about. What I learned from constructing this book was that life is hard and we need to deal with it. The way I picked my motifs was to us use the same image for like the same thing I'm doing, so like if it were my memoir I would use the same background image instead of using like 4 different ones. What I did was find my images on my camera and off of google.

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Chapter 1: My Memoirs

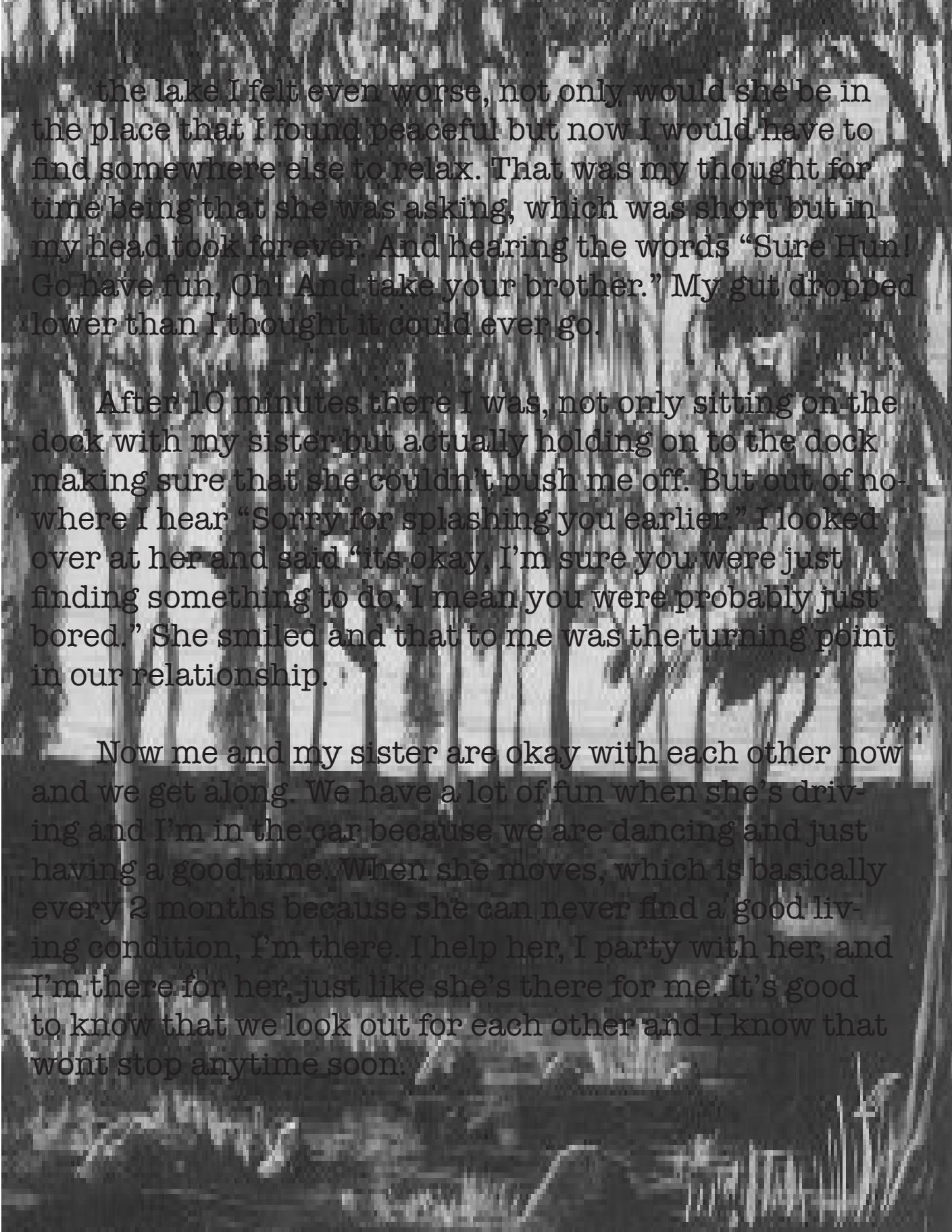
By Dominic

I always liked coming home from school. It was fun to have a snack and watch T.V. before doing my homework. But sometimes it wouldn't, only for the fact that my sister would be home for a week or two and would hog the T.V. And every time I would always hear "Dominic sorry but you can't watch T.V. today since I won't let you." That really made me mad sometimes, but other times I would just go into my room and start my homework as usual.

My sister and I always had something that made one of us not like the other. Sometimes it was my crying when I fell every five minutes and others it was her yelling or complaining to someone. But there were the times where we liked having each other around or maybe we would play a game. When I was young I never looked up to my sister, I guess I just thought that always choosing someone older than you to look up to was sort of overrated. Every time in class hearing the question, "Who is your role model and why?" was to me a trick question. I mean just because we should choose someone older than us to maybe see as a guide, doesn't mean we have to have one main person to idol. Well anyway I and my sister now are actually okay with each other. We get along and have fun together. I know that we will probably be okay with each other for a long time.

I remember one time back when I was five or six and I was in my bed at about 6:00am or 7:00am, and I heard the door open and footsteps going down the hallway. I laid there thinking it was my grandma going to work so I didn't check it out. But I heard voices that sounded like my dad and my sister. So that's when I walked out of my room and saw my sister and dad standing there. All I said was "what's she doing here?" and she said "Oh we are going to Disneyland tomorrow, but I'm not supposed to tell you." I looked at her with a face mocking her stupidity. But I knew she said it just to ruin the surprise. So the next day we were in the car going on a 8 hour drive to Anaheim and I had to sit next to her and the only thought I had was "I wonder if she has anything ELSE to spoil." When we got there she said her arms were hurting so I had to carry 12 bags up to the third floor... on the other side of the hotel. After the unpacking was done we all got ready and went to Disneyland for the evening since it would be a lot cooler at night. We only stayed for the weekend since I had school and my dad had work. But sadly I knew that this vacation was only one of many to come.

But there was another time when, well I remember I was camping and I was just sitting quietly at the lake playing with the water, looking at the water and breathing in the smell of the pine trees around me. I was going to play in the water but when I stood up my sister came over and splashed the water. I yelled "Why the hell did you do that?!" she just tossed her hair, stuck out her tongue and skipped away, now that I didn't understand at all. That night at dinner I was again quiet and didn't eat much. I made a point NOT to talk to my sister even if my parents asked me to, I wouldn't. She always found something to do to get me mad or sad. And when she was done eating and asked if she could go to



the lake I felt even worse, not only would she be in the place that I found peaceful but now I would have to find somewhere else to relax. That was my thought for time being that she was asking, which was short but in my head took forever. And hearing the words “Sure Hun! Go have fun, Oh! And take your brother.” My gut dropped lower than I thought it could ever go.

After 10 minutes there I was, not only sitting on the dock with my sister but actually holding on to the dock making sure that she couldn’t push me off. But out of nowhere I hear “Sorry for splashing you earlier.” I looked over at her and said “its okay, I’m sure you were just finding something to do, I mean you were probably just bored.” She smiled and that to me was the turning point in our relationship.

Now me and my sister are okay with each other now and we get along. We have a lot of fun when she’s driving and I’m in the car because we are dancing and just having a good time. When she moves, which is basically every 2 months because she can never find a good living condition, I’m there. I help her, I party with her, and I’m there for her, just like she’s there for me. It’s good to know that we look out for each other and I know that wont stop anytime soon.



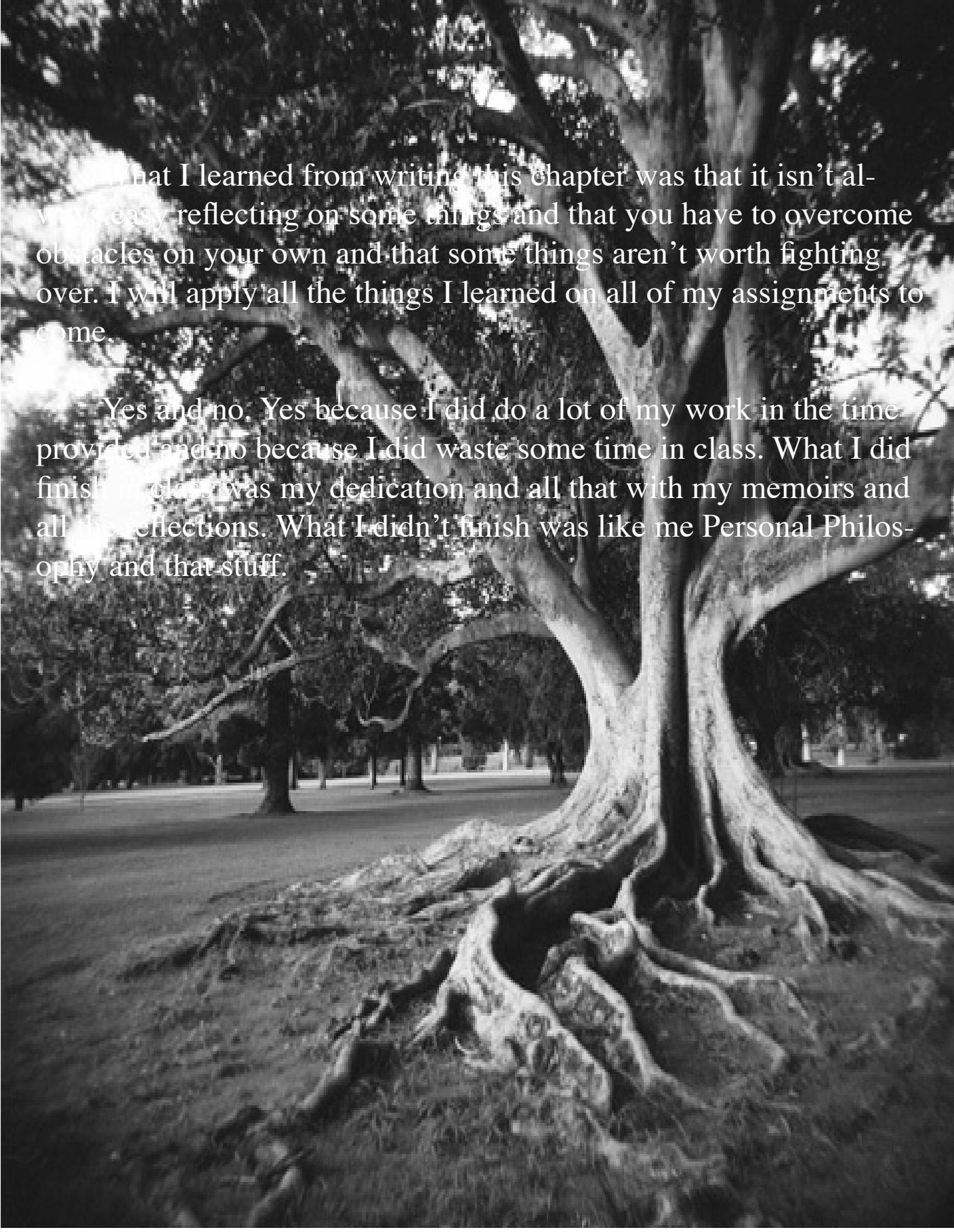
Chapter 2: About Writing My Chapter

Writing about my chapter started okay but then started getting bad. When I got the assignment I was really happy but I didn't know what to write about. So I just thought about all the things in my life that were important and that I could remember. So then I came to the fact that I should write about my family and how I feel about them. So I just thought of all my feelings toward them, and just wrote and brainstormed. What slowed me down was thinking about what things out of all the stuff I wrote down should go in the memoir.

The problem's I had to resolve was actually choosing the things I wanted to write about. And also I had a hard time figuring out where to put what I wrote and knowing when to make a new paragraph and also I wasn't sure if some things I wrote were okay to share. But when I read it to my parents, they loved it. So the only problems I had to solve were my spelling errors and organizing the events, and that was easy to do.

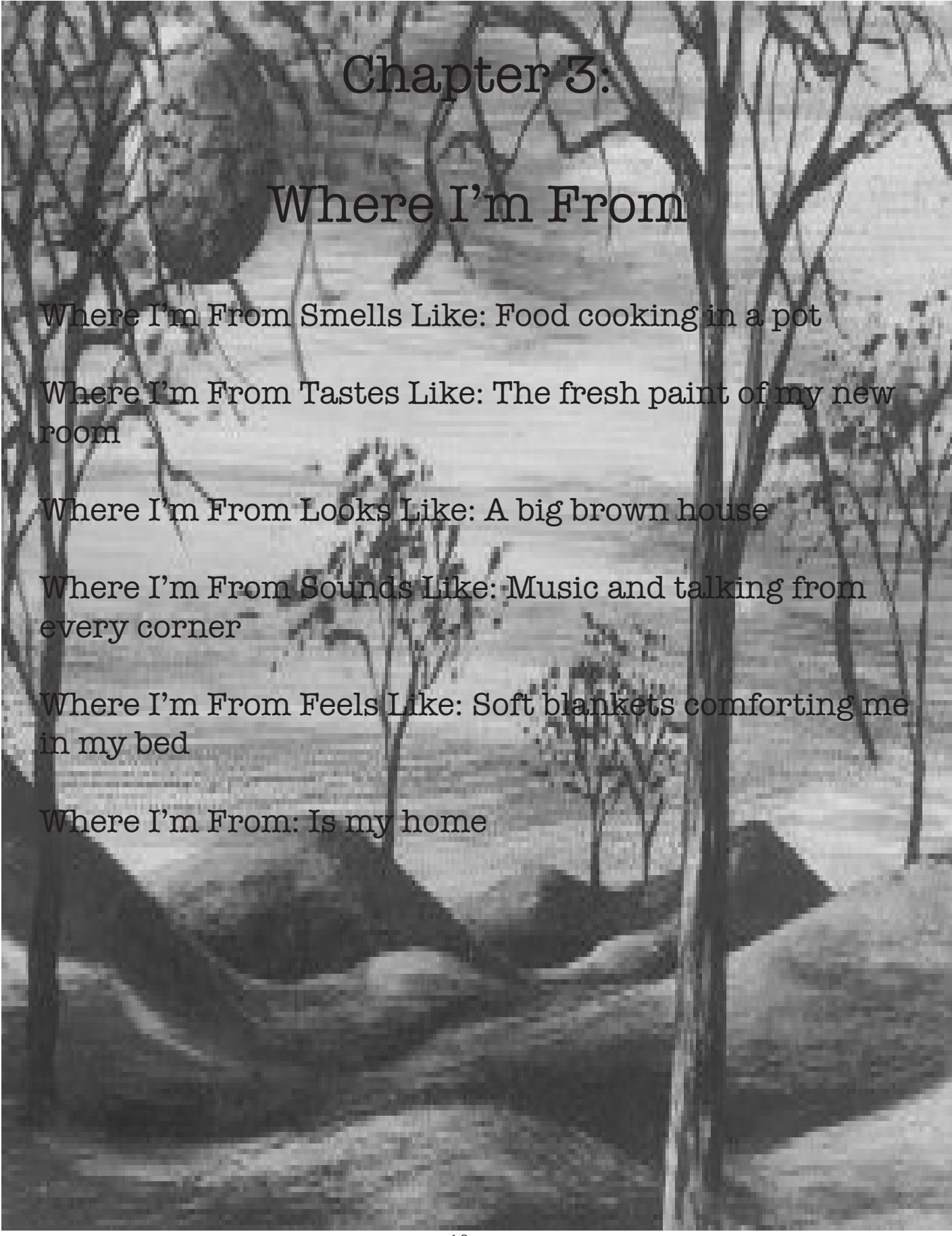
What I noticed as me being a writer was that I had an easy time writing my stuff and that it came naturally to me. Also the struggles I had to overcome were when I was doing the memoir part b/c that was hard to think about when I had to place everything.

The challenges that came up for me in writing this chapter was having to deal with some distractions while writing it. They were easy to overcome because all I had to do was just ignore them and just go on with my work. Also another thing I had a problem with was having trouble with writing bout some of the questions.



What I learned from writing this chapter was that it isn't always easy reflecting on some things and that you have to overcome obstacles on your own and that some things aren't worth fighting over. I will apply all the things I learned on all of my assignments to come.

Yes and no. Yes because I did do a lot of my work in the time provided and no because I did waste some time in class. What I did finish in class was my dedication and all that with my memoirs and all the reflections. What I didn't finish was like me Personal Philosophy and that stuff.



Chapter 3: Where I'm From

Where I'm From Smells Like: Food cooking in a pot

Where I'm From Tastes Like: The fresh paint of my new room

Where I'm From Looks Like: A big brown house

Where I'm From Sounds Like: Music and talking from every corner

Where I'm From Feels Like: Soft blankets comforting me in my bed

Where I'm From: Is my home



Chapter 4:

Artist Statement:

Hello, my name is Dominic Ortiz and the title of my book is My Sister and I. I'm dedicating this book to of course my sister and my family because they are a main part of my life. The main point of this memoir is to tell people about my sister's and I relationship and how we got closer and closer.

The excerpt I'm about read is about the time when me and my family were on a camping trip and me and my sister were sitting on a dock after we had a little incident earlier. And about our relationship now.

After 10 minutes there I was, not only sitting on the dock with my sister but actually holding on to the dock making sure that she couldn't push me off. But out of nowhere I hear "Sorry for splashing you earlier." I looked over at her and said "its okay, I'm sure you were just finding something to do, I mean you were probably just bored." She smiled at me and that to me was the turning point in our relationship.



Now me and my sister are okay with each other now and we get along. We have a lot of fun when she's driving and I'm in the car because we are dancing and just having a good time. When she moves, which is basically every 2 months because she can never find a good living condition, I'm there. I help her, I party with her, and I'm there for her, just like she's there for me. It's good to know that we look out for each other and I know that won't stop anytime soon.

Thank you for listening and enjoy the rest of your evening.

Testimony

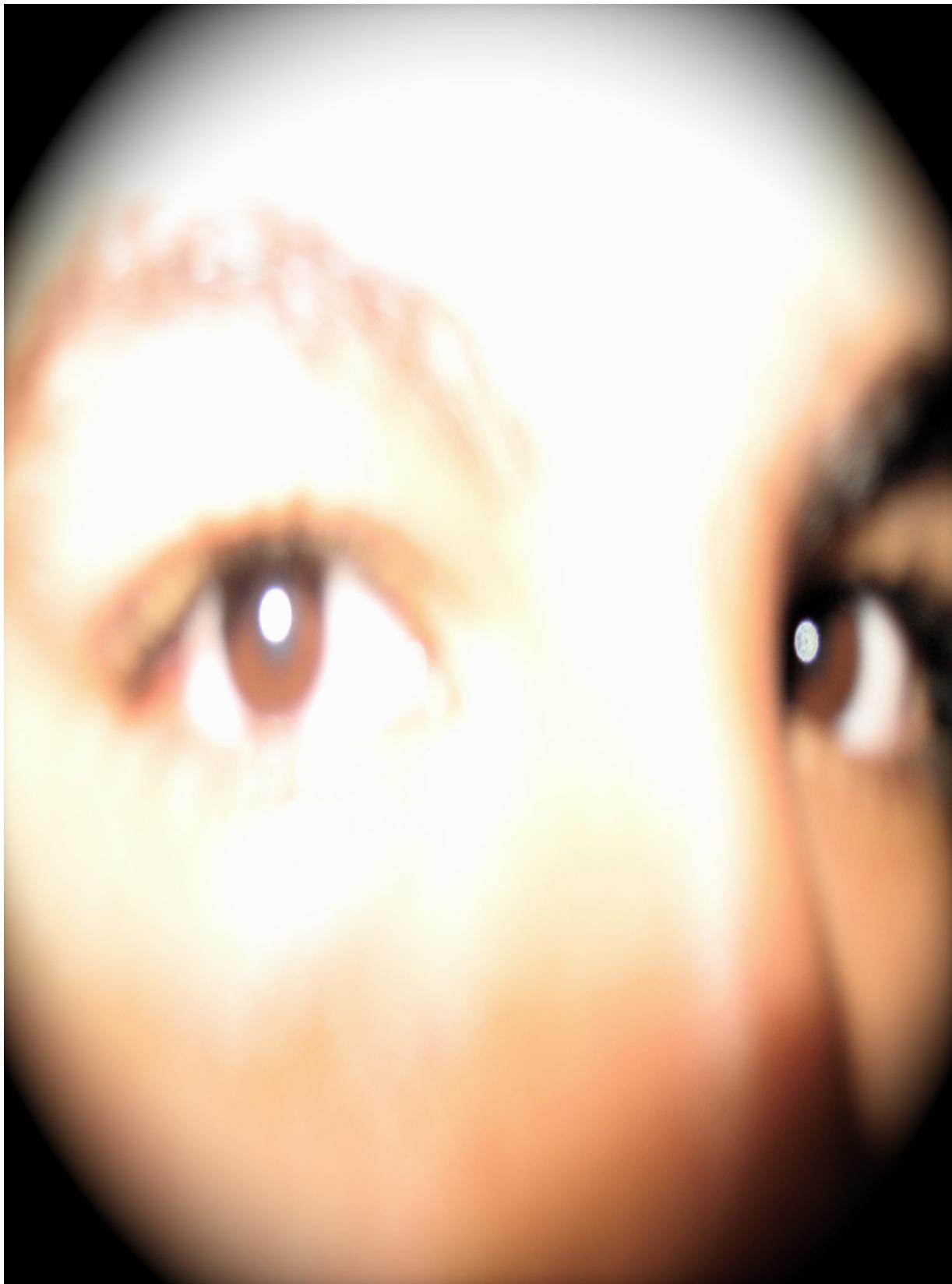
I am Lao Tzu and my experiences have been writing many books, which reflected my beliefs and views on government and how to live life. It also talks about the balances of life and why things happen the way they are. The best form of government is the one that rules itself through non-action and that helps it's people but does not try to control them I do think that it can happen but do you think it can? I do believe that people can govern themselves only for the fact that they should do keep the government down and not in power. But I also believe they can't because if they begin to control and live out of balance with nature they will be disrespecting me and all of things good and bad. I appose Machiavelli because his views are completely opposite from mine. He believes that a government should control and even torture their people and make them live under rule of 1 leader. Is that a good way to live? He also thinks that some people should rule because of who they are not what they do and no one can help them with their decisions and what they say goes for as long as they rule.

Reflection:

I agree with Lao Tzu's beliefs and views on life because I could see myself living in harmony with nature. And also not having a government that helps you and then lets you live life is a good thing to do. I could also live with seeing all things as a balance of nature and a balance on Yin and Yang. So if I could I would do and believe in his religion.

About The Author

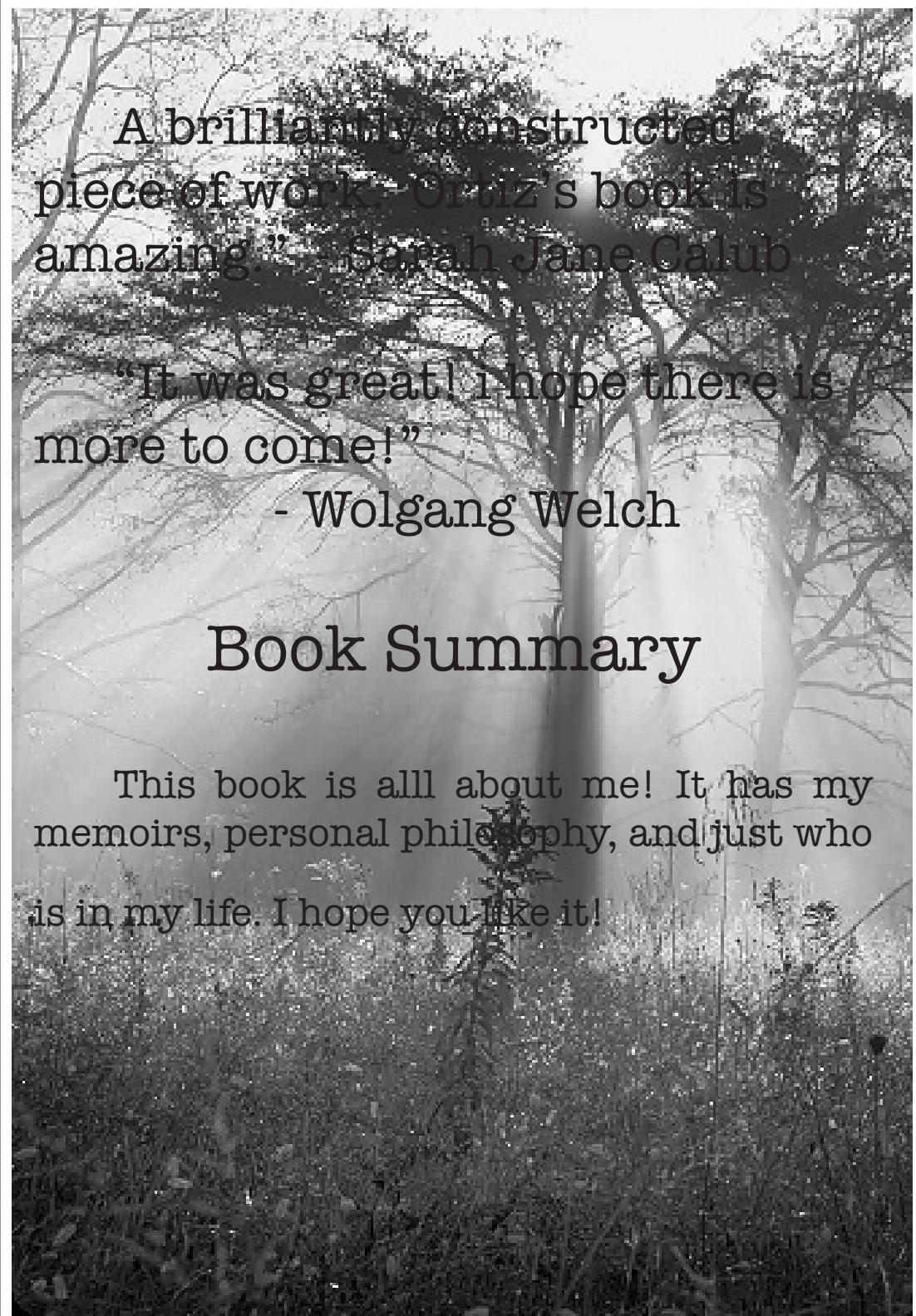
Dominic Ortiz is the author off this book. He was born in Berkeley, California, but lives and grew up in San Francisco, California. This is his first book, which makes this a major event in his life academically, and also this is his first exhibition. His home consists of himself, his mom and dad, and his grandma. His hobbies are going to movies, watching T.V., hanging out with his friends, and going on the computer. In his free time he likes to sleep and watch video games. What makes him unique is as he grew up he was able to travel a lot and go on family vacations every summer. He also had a great childhood, which made him the child he is today.



Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank my mom and dad for supporting me. My sister for being an "inspiration" to me, my Uncle Rich for being in my life and backing up everything I do in life. My friends McKenna, Ryan, and Rebecca for doing funny things for me to write about. My cousins Brandy and Angel for being in my childhood life. My teachers for making me do this book, and he school for having exhibitions to making my teachers make me do this. And last but not least, my class, for making doing the assignment in class fun and entertaining.





A brilliantly constructed piece of work. Ortiz's book is amazing." - Sarah Jane Calub

"It was great! I hope there is more to come!"

- Wolfgang Welch

Book Summary

This book is all about me! It has my memoirs, personal philosophy, and just who is in my life. I hope you like it!