

16. Gabby H.

The Unforgettable Post-It Note

Something that I can't ever forget.....thankful.....grateful.....and..... unforgettable.

-Start in a new place

One year and seven months ago, I leave my country, a beautiful island, the land where most memories I have in my head, Taiwan. After I waved my hand to my dad and my grandparents, I embarked on my journey, the longest journey that I have in my life.

I came to America without knowing English, the first thing that I touched was going to public school and started being an adventurer. I was hoping that everyone can be nice to me and hoped that I can get a lot of help from the teacher, no angry, no worries, and no pressure.

My first thing on my first day of school was taking the school bus. I never take the school bus until I came to America. I wanted to be ready for the school bus, can't be late and can't be unready, so I woke up earlier than usual. When I got on the bus, although I didn't understand what people were talking about, however, I can tell people seem excited about going to school. Some people talked loudly, some people were looking at their phone, some people were sat alone. I was the one who was sat alone.

When I arrived the school, I started to worry about how to find my first-period classroom, I only know where the cafeteria is.

I went to the gym, tried to find my teacher. "What?", I couldn't understand how people could find their name in this long list, "What's my last name?", I was questioning myself. Yeah, I didn't know what's the "last name" or the "first name" means. I understood there is no way that I can find my name in the list, even gives me three days, I would still be standing there and try to figure out what's last name and first name.

When I didn't know what to do, my counselor came. My counselor wearied a pink shirt and white jean, she has a lot of white hair, she looks old. She helped me to find my first-period teacher, my class begin.

-The teachers

My first-period is math. I had a beautiful teacher; she was nice to me when she knows I can't speak English. "Welcome, Gabby!", that was the first thing she said to me. After that, she asked another question, I shake my head, "it's okay, Gabby." she said, then she left. Although was a little conversation, I have more trust with her.

Everything just getting better than I thought because I got the best teachers in all my subjects. My English class had a bit different than the ordinary people had. I went to ESL for last year.

Ms.Lokhandwala was my English teacher. My first day with her was unforgettable. That day, I acted shy and unnatural. When I Introduced myself, she asked me where my country is, and then I tried to tell her, however, I didn't talk well, so she never asked me again. Although, we didn't have a perfect first day, the next few weeks we were having a good time in the class. Well, easy days were no longer enough, I had wished a million times about I don't have to study every night.

-The hard time I never had

When I was in Taiwan, I go to daycare every day, so I didn't have any issue dealing with the homework. The first year in America was tough, because of the language issue, so although the homework is easy, I still need to spend the whole night for translating my homework. Last year, I went to bed at two o'clock every day, which is bad, and I felt tired at school. I couldn't focus on my English class, so I didn't have good learning effectiveness in the first few months.

People didn't like me in the first few months, some people thought I'm weird, some people thought I'm mean. However, that didn't give me any pressure. One day, in history class, a boy sat next to

me, he told me: "Go back to China." I didn't say anything back. I was sad, and I felt heartbroken because I worked so hard. I don't know what to do, I had no idea.

When I was down, when I almost give up, someone changed my life, immediately.

-Now, it's the time to change

Every day, the only purpose I go to school is the English class. Undoubtedly, Ms.Lokhandwala is my favorite teacher. Every activity, she used post-it notes to help us learn better, my progress was very fast. After the winter break, I can speak English well. The post-it notes became important in my lesson.

After the winter break, I didn't have that much friend because most of them are fake. I was not in the mood. One day, Ms.Lokhandwala found out by my face, she didn't ask me in the class, she wrote a post-it note to me. I talked to her after class. Next day, she told us some her experience when she came to America, I felt I am not the only one, I figure out how to make a friend, it didn't take me too long to find the one.

Finally, I found the one after a few weeks. She is a little bit shy, but I know we always be frank with others. Our stories sound similar, I think that's why we are best friend.

-The happy chapter

Everything just getting better than the beginning, I am so proud of myself, I'm thankful to Ms.Lokhandwala.

I believe everyone has something in their head is unforgettable, for me, I will never forget the spirit of the post-it notes, because it's passing the love between two people. Whenever I saw the post-it notes, it's always reminded me of the story about Ms.Lokhandwala's childhood and how nice she is, I will never forget Ms.Lokhandwala.

Thanks to the teachers who were taking care of me.