Emma Anderson
Period: 2
11/19/2018
Non-Fiction Story

Sean

"I met him ten years ago today, and you ought to bet that day I met him I had no idea how important he would become to me. Sean was like no one else. He understood me better than anybody I'd ever met. I know this might seem weird for me to tell you this at a funeral, but I feel like it's something everyone should know." (November 13th, 2014)

On the first day of middle school, I knew nobody. That was until Sean came up to me in the cafeteria with his big cheery smile. He greeted me, then immediately asked me to sit with him. He seemed sweet, so of course I jumped at the opportunity to become his friend. We sat at the table and talked to each other, told one another everything about ourselves. We had this immediate connection. After the first few weeks of school, Sean and I had already become best friends. Every day after school we would hang out with one another. We always made a new fun memory.

As several months went by, Sean and I grew closer to one another, we had an unreal bond. It was like we had spidey senses when one of us wasn't feeling right. The week before summer break was going to begin, Sean didn't show up to school. Of course, I wondered why, but there was nothing I could do since I didn't have a cell phone. On the last day of school, Mrs. Gilbert asked me to stay after class. I knew something must have been wrong because she'd never done that before. As soon as the bell rang, I walked right over to her desk. She asked me to sit down, which was a huge indicator something was wrong. She looked at me, then grabbed the tissues. I only continued to get more nervous. She said, "Emma, you've probably noticed that Sean hasn't been in school all week" I looked at her and hesitated to nod.
She got straight to the point and dropped some of the hardest news on me ever. "Sean has stage three kidney cancer, Emma. He is dying." At that moment in time, I didn't know what to do, I completely froze. Tears began rushing from my eyes as I processed what she just told me.
The bus ride home that day was lonely. My head became consumed with thoughts, like what would I do without Sean...

About four weeks later I finally got to visit Sean. When I walked through his front door my nose filled with a hospital-like aroma. His house used to have this comforting smell to it, like hot cocoa and cookies but not anymore. I walked towards Sean, and the closer I got the more I began to understand how sick he was. His once bright and happy

face was now a sickly, cold mirror of him. I grabbed his hand, and he quickly woke up. He looked me in the eyes, as a tear trickled down his cheek. He told me that he appreciated me and that I was the best thing that ever happened to him. He thanked me for being such a good friend. That day we talked about all the things we did together in the short year I knew him. We looked back on all the old memories we made, like when I broke my leg jumping off the swing set trying to show him up. After hours of talking, his mom Jasmine came into the room and told me it was time to go because Sean needed his chemo. I quickly packed up all my things and gave Sean and Jasmine a hug, then was out the door. As I walked home, I got hit by the harsh reality that I lived in; my best friend was going to die.

For the last few weeks of Sean's life, he was taken off of hospice. Sean decided he wanted to spend his last days having fun. So he and I spent every moment together. We took a trip to California because he had never been before, then we went surfing, which he sucked at doing. After that trip, his family and I flew down to Hawaii. Sean wanted to go there because he was eager to try the pork. Seeing Sean happy made me glad because he deserved the world.

The last day we were in Hawaii, out on the beach, Sean got sick, so we took an immediate flight home. I couldn't go to the doctor with him and Jasmine, so I got a taxi home.

I could hardly sleep that night because I could feel the pain Sean was feeling. The last thing I remember was the phone ringing; my mom picked it up, then there was a long silence. Sean had passed away.

"Here I am today, telling you that Sean was an amazing boy, he did so much for me. He taught me to cherish every moment of my life. I will never forget him."