

"If you want to fly, you have to give up the things that weigh you down"

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North Ridgeville Highschool

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Not once, did I think that being sixteen would be so life altering. Sure, being sixteen has huge life milestones that come your way. Getting your license, sweet sixteen parties, and for some even your first job. With milestones come more responsibilities and decisions.

One of my biggest decisions was deciding to up-root everything I have ever known for the past five or six years. My parents split up and I decided to take that opportunity and run with it. Of course, not everything has been all butterflies and rainbows, but I knew deep down inside me; that this is what I needed to do for myself. To leave my small town school, all of my friends, and the backroads that would all eventually lead to the same place. I knew a much larger place is where I was meant to be. To get out of and escape my very confined comfort zone. Take the risk. A bigger school with even bigger opportunities to come. Knowing that there would be road blocks, results in many detours; even if that means taking a little longer to reach your destination. Although this particular road block had lead me to the largest detour and sacrifices I have ever made. Starting over. Not even for a second have I regretted the choice I settled on. When looking back at the progress I have made within five short months it can still be very mind blowing. Sometimes complications and problems still arise, but what is a story without some form of conflict? If we could all pick out our own problems and story lines I am sure we would. Although, then there would be no learning, growth, or change. Growing up adults always like to hammer the saying "we are just preparing you for the real world" into our heads.

What I have learned is that the truth is, there is no preparing for "the real world". Everything is forever changing and you have to learn as you go through life. Only you will know what you want in your life and the steps to take in order to get there.

Learning to let go has been hard. Once you do, it is easier to feel at peace and more motivated to keep pushing through. Letting go of a pessimistic outlook. Accomplishing your goals. Reaching milestones. Arriving at long awaited destinations.