James Krafft

Dr. Griffin

English 12

24 October 2012

Growing up running away from your problems, doing drugs and going into world war 3 with yourself everyday was never easy. When I was in my freshman year of high school, I was very intrigued by books about teenage issues and troubles in life. My friend Genesis told me to read the book Go Ask Alice. “Come on James, read this book for me! I know you will like it,” Genesis said with much enthusiasm! She handed me the book and it changed my life forever. This book was about a girl, her name was never mentioned. She was 15 and growing up in the 70s, and really doesn’t know who she is on planet earth. She has many problems to overcome. She is forced to deal with problems with herself, her peers, and her home life.

It all started on one day when she was at a party, they had played the game called “button.” Button was a game that they paid at parties, they would bring a platter of drinks, and some of them were spiked with acid. She had never been on drugs, never experienced the trips. She was scared at first, “how could people I trusted betray me like this?” This one slip started a downward spiral of her life. She began doing and selling drugs, even lowered her morals to sell drugs to the junior high. After a couple weeks of doing this, she found out that she was being used; she stole the money that she had made from selling drugs and ran away.

She wanted to better her life. After she talked to a priest when she ran away from home, she wanted to get off of drugs. She turned in all of her connections for drugs so she wouldn’t have a temptation. Her friends had turned their back at her because she turned all of them in. They wanted revenge. She got a job as a babysitter for one of her neighbors. Many tried to turn her back onto drugs, she never had given in. One day, when she was babysitting, someone had spiked her drink. She left the baby to go into the closet and slowly claw out her face because she was having a bad trip. Only to go to the emergency room to get turned back onto drugs. Her life had taken one huge plunge and to never resurface.

“The subject of this book died three weeks after her decision not to keep another diary,” those words had crushed me. I read them over and over until I could make sense of something that was senseless. I thought to myself. Tears running down my face, I was so excited to hear about how great she turned out, but only to be ruined by reading that last page. My body violently shivered, as if her soul was with me at that moment when I was finishing up her diary. I laid back and really thought about what good could be taken from such a tragedy. How can a girl who changed her life around, and now was finally happy just give up? A thought came into my mind, maybe her fate was to die so others can learn from her mistakes. Now she is just one of a number of people who had committed suicide that year.

Anonymous had received her diary, documented her every thought, went through hell and back, and yet she had taken her own life in the end. I couldn’t comprehend this. Throughout the whole novel, there was always a sense of hope. At the last few days of her diary, everything was looking up for her. She was enjoying her family, and appreciating her home. However, the fact that something went wrong after she stopped writing in her diary intrigued me. Maybe something didn’t go wrong, maybe she just wasn’t meant to live without her hope in life, which was her diary.

Everybody can learn something from this book. This book taught me to live my life to the fullest and to not get caught up in stupid things like drugs. The girl felt that her parents were always against her