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### The Journey of the Writing Process

Mortimer Adler, Anne LaMott, and Ray Bradbury's writings all describe a certain process in the journey of books. Each journey all starts with inspiration and determination. Ray Bradbury described his method of writing Fahrenheit 451 and the ways in which he was inspired to write more books. In each case, he was always inspired by something in the world that sparked his interest. He started with those little ideas and allowed them to grow into an entire book. Bradbury also explained that his characters write the books. He believes that the character gives him the information and he writes it down. Thus, he believes he leaves his heart into each book for people to read. After the first idea of a book is formulated, authors always write first drafts.

Anne Lamott describes that, almost always, the first drafts are "shitty." However, she explains that these terrible first drafts are important. One must get out all their ideas onto one paper, even if it is extremely long. Then from these drafts, the author can revise their works later by removing and reorganizing the writing and eventually, they can compose an adequate final draft. The next step, after a piece of writing has been finished, is for the reader to read and interpret it.

Mortimer Adler explains that the way in which readers must do this is by marking a book. By marking a book, the reader gives back. They provide their own interpretation and thoughts into the book; no matter if they agree or disagree with the author. I have done every

process described by these three authors, just on a smaller a scale. Anything I write begins with inspiration or an idea that grows as a write. I only usually ever write for school purposes, and most cases, teachers require that students write first drafts. In these drafts, I tend not to try as hard because they are just the beginning and are not graded. Then, once it is time to write my final draft after revising my paper, I take the ideas and sentences from my first draft and improve and refine my writing.

On the opposite end, when I am the reader, I have marked a book many times. I must admit that I only mark a book when I am required to for school. I enjoy reading on my own, but I never annotate any of the books I read recreationally. Teachers in class always required or encouraged students to annotate books and I found it to be very helpful. It helps me understand the book more because I am evaluating and interpreting the sentences instead of just reading through it quickly and only internalizing what it is on the surface.

Although I have used these strategies, I have never thought about them as deeply as these writers. Now, when I write papers, I will think about what Adler, Lamott, and Bradbury explained about their process of writing and interpreting authors' compositions. Hopefully, if I use their advice and methods, it will greatly improve my writing ability and result in academic success.