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### The Love of Reading and Writing

When reading Anne Lamott's "Shitty First Drafts", Mortimer J. Adler's "HOW TO MARK A BOOK", and watching Ray Bradbury's audio guide on *Fahrenheit 451*, one can see that they all encourage people to consume themselves into their reading and writing. I strongly agree with all three of the writers and what they have to say.

To begin, Anne Lamott stresses the need to have a child's draft which is "where you let it all pour out and then let it romp all over the place, knowing that no one is going to see it and that you can shape it later. You just let this childlike part of you channel whatever voices and visions come through and onto the page" (Lamott). She believes you must put in more work by making a first draft, which may be mediocre, then fix it up some more, making a second draft. I think this is a great message she is communicating. She is encouraging writers to let loose and experiment with their writing. I know when I write a paper, I depend on a first draft to ensure my final draft can be as spotless as possible.

Furthermore, Mortimer J. Adler hopes people will "write between the lines" of a book (Adler). Adler literally wants readers to take out a pen and start annotating. He wants people to dive into their readings and truly understand the book. Adler confidently says, "a great book, rich in ideas and beauty, a book that raises and tries to answer great fundamental questions,

demands the most active reading of which you are capable" (Adler ). By this he means, the best books have complicated ideas. Us, as the reader need to analyze their works diligently. This means the reader must do little tasks like underlining important parts of the book, asterisking things, circling important words, and doing whatever means necessary in the margins (Adler). I like his message because while writing papers, I rely on my good annotations to guide me through the book. It organizes your own personal thoughts.

Lastly, my favorite message is the one that Ray Bradbury gives when he talks about his experience of writing *Fahrenheit 451*. Bradbury says, "the things that you do, should be things that you love." (Prod. Dan Stone). He goes on about how he has a love for reading and writing and has never stopped. This encourages people to never stop with their reading and writing goals. Ray Bradbury had a love for life and the experiences of reading and writing which is very inspirational and heartwarming. It makes me want to write with more passion.

Overall, Anne Lamott, Mortimer J. Adler, and Ray Bradbury have great ideas to share to everyone who reads and writes. All of their messages are unique, whether it's writing "shitty first drafts, writing all over your books, or just loving the experience of reading. They want readers and writers to delve completely into whatever they are working on.

### Works Cited

Adler, Mortimer J. "HOW TO MARK A BOOK." N.p.: n.p., n.d. N. pag. Print.

Lamott, Anne. "Shitty First Drafts." *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*. Melbourne: Scribe, 2009. N. pag. Print.

Prod. Dan Stone. Perf. Ray Bradbury. *NEA Big Read*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 Apr. 2017.