

November 16, 2018

Dear S.E.Hinton,

I opened your book *The Outsiders* in my English class for the first time in the month of October not knowing what it was about. Not knowing what was going to happen to the characters. When about halfway through the book my thoughts started changing. In chapter 2, that change my thinking when Cherry and Ponyboy were talking about the Greasers and the Socs seeing the same sunset. The book got me thinking about the choices in life, such as judging people and how to overcome challenges too.

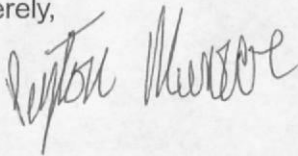
Your book helped me see that all people are the same. Like you said, "Everyone sees the same sunset." At first I already knew that people are all equal, but reading this book help me realize it more. You should treat people the way you want to be treated because it hurts to be treated badly. Everyone pretty much goes through the same things in their lives, like being sick, having something or someone die, or going through a poor stage too. We are all equal in this world.

Also the book helped me see that there will be struggles in our lives that we will have to face. You have to go through struggles because life isn't perfect. I can relate to Pony when he has a hard time letting go of his good friends, Johnny and Dally. I have a hard time letting go my family members or anything that means so much to me like my pigs that I show in 4-H. One time, I had a hard time letting go my grandpa that drowned six years ago. I couldn't really believe that he was gone. I kept saying to myself that he was, he was just playing games with me, but he was actually gone. I couldn't stop crying for about a week. I was crying at school and at home. Then I finally got over crying and I knew he wasn't coming back. It was hard for me like it was hard for Pony. We have to go through struggles a lot in our lives, but we have struggles to face and learn what to do if something happens again.

Last the book helped me see to not judge a book by its cover, especially people. You can't judge anyone on looks because you have to get to know them first before you become friends or not. In the book I remember Pony judged the Socs before actually getting to know who they are. Then he realized that they are similar to him. That showed me right there that you shouldn't judge. what I'm going to do is get to know the person before judging them if they are right to be friends.

Thank you so much for writing your book. Your book changed my thinking a lot. *The Outsiders* has so many lessons that will help change people. It helped me and some of my classmates too to learn the lessons. I can see that I have change because I've learned to get to know about a person before I judge, I realized a lot more that everyone is the same, and I that struggles are just a part of life. Your book changes everyone's thinking. Thank you again for writing your book and inspiring people too

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peyton Munroe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Peyton Munroe