

Jan 5, 2020

Dear Mr. Clark,

My name is Abbi Odell, I am      years old and love to read. My Mom first checked out your book, The Essential 55, from our downtown library. While she was reading it, my family would hear her talk about what a great book it was and after she finished it, she bought it. When the book got to our house in a package, my Mom announced to the family that it was mandatory that everyone read it, even my little sister, who was five years old at the time! That is how I stumbled upon your book; I had no idea how much it would change me.

When it was my turn to read The Essential 55, I got into it right away, taking it with me to school, and into the store when we went shopping. Before I was even done with the book, it was already changing me, I was telling all my friends, family, and even teachers about your rules and how great they are. Once I finished the book, I immediately told my teachers they should read it so we could enforce the rules in our classroom environment, all except rule 47 (Sorry, we like our Doritos!). After and while reading the I was reading the book, my Mom and I talked a lot about how the book made us want to do kind deeds, and how we should find a way to make the rules our lifestyle. We decided that we should try to do one random act of kindness each day, (Rule 11).

I try to embrace these rules each day, I want to be a kinder, politer, a better classmate, a better student, and better friend. Reading this book has made me a better person, each day I want to use a rule that will make myself and others happy. For example, Rule 16, homework will be turned in each day for each subject by every student with no expectations, motivates me to work on my homework often. I have spelling homework due every Tuesday and math homework due every Friday. The stories that go along with Rule 16 remind me to make sure I get my homework completed. Another rule that changed me was Rule 50, be positive and enjoy life! There are many things that bring people down inu8 life, an example of one in my life is a bad grade or a mean person. This rule has taught me that there is always a bright side, if you get a bad grade, you can study harder, and mean people exist, but the best thing you can do is be nice to them. I have learned and changed so much from this book, and it is definitely for the better!

The Essential 55 has really changed the way I look at life, using the rules has me and other people happier! Remembering the rules makes me a better person in and outside the classroom. They are not only rules, they are tips for life, thank you for writing them down so the whole world can see them. My Mom telling me to read The Essential 55 was one of the best things she has ever done.

Sincerely,  
Abbi Odell