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Dear Mrs.Thomas,

I am writing to you about your book *The Hate U Give* and how it impacted me in my life. This book gave me a very different perspective on things in my life that I was not aware of. It showed me that you can be judged and criticized, but you should always stay strong, just as Starr did.

What impacted me was that Starr stood up for herself and showed everyone her opinion on what happened to Khalil when he died. She even went on TV and risked her identity to tell the story that she saw. She was not afraid to hold back on any of her emotions throughout that hard time in her life. Even when everyone was judging Starr and when people were trying to hurt her family, she stayed resilient to protect her family at the same time her family was trying to protect her. "Sometimes you can do everything right and things will still go wrong. The key is to never stop doing right." The last thing that impacted me was that she stayed invincible to show her perspective on what happened to Khalil because she knew that it would have been different if Khalil were white. This is a quote I thought was really inspiring from your book, "What's the point of having a voice if you're gonna be silent in those moments you shouldn't be?" Starr helped me realize that you may have trouble speaking your voice but you have to stay strong because your voice is there for a reason, so why stay silent at times you should be heard.

A time in my life when I had to overcome something was when I was ski racing. This was the race that qualifies you for the championships. Throughout my years of ski racing I have always become very nervous before I raced. My heart was pumping fast as I entered the gate, knowing that this was very important to me, this was my chance to prove to myself that I was strong and that the hard work of training three times a week had paid off. I launched myself out of the gates and started cross blocking the slalom gates in front of me, as I was moving down the course focused and engaged on what was in front of me. I thought to myself I am doing it, having fun and I could not be prouder. In conclusion, I overcame my fear of being in the gates

and thinking negatively about myself while on the course. Now I see ski racing as an exhilarating and exciting sport that I get to do in the winter.

In conclusion your book *The Hate U Give* will help me get through many challenges throughout my life.

Sincerely,

Harriet Sullivan

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