My Love/Hate Relationship with Glasses

If there's one thing I could change about myself, it would be my eyesight. The sudden decline of my eyesight in sixth and seventh grade has been one of the most frustrating issues of my entire life. I don't know why I suddenly just started to lose my vision. I thought it was just normal for people to lose it with age. However, I didn't understand why I needed to constantly squint to see simple things that were right in front of me like my TV or the classroom board.

It was especially bad for my free time because my favorite hobby when I was a younger was playing video games. Without knowing it, my eyesight would start to diminish because I would play them excessively all day, every day without getting tired. When I was transitioning into the period where my eyesight starting getting worse, I never made the connection that the reason I needed glasses was because of video games. I'm sure if anyone tried to tell me this 3 or 4 years ago, I would have just dismissed their claims. Even though I've never gotten direct confirmation about why my eyesight suddenly left me, I easily figured it out for myself when I received my first pair of glasses at the end of seventh grade. Prolonged use of playing video games can cause headaches, blurred vision, and nearsightedness. Surely, glasses couldn't have solved my issues because I had never needed them at that point. However, my seventh grade year was the time when I knew something had to change.

Seventh grade was the year where my eyesight first started to play an important role in my life. Unbeknownst to me the majority of the time, I squinted at everyone and everything. I was so nearsighted that I couldn't see anything that was more than ten feet away from me. For the longest time, I was doing this and I never got why my friends would walk up to me outside or in the hallway and just start squinting at me with smirks on their faces. It really did confuse me

until I literally had to ask my friend why people did this to me. He told me that I squint at literally everything. He told me that people thought that it was funny. I really didn't get why that was so funny. They were also confused as to why I always felt the need to squint. I didn't know why I squinted either. It was just a reflex, I couldn't help it. I decided to forget about the whole conversation and continue on with my day. However, I now knew that there was something severely wrong with my vision after hearing people talk about how good their eyesight was to me. Squinting had become so normal for me that I just thought that's what people had to do if they wanted to focus on something. Squinting started to give me headaches and it felt like my vision was just getting worse. I used to think glasses were super nerdy and would just make me ugly. I really didn't want to have to wear them, but I knew that if the quality of my vision continued on its slow decline, I would eventually need to be fitted for a pair.

In seventh grade, I sat next to this kid named Lucky in homeroom. He was Asian, about 5'6, husky, and a cool person to hang around. One thing about him was that he wore glasses and always kept two pairs handy. When I started to get really curious about whether glasses were the solution to my problems, Lucky came through for me. He offered to let me try on his extra pair of glasses, and then my life flashed before my eyes. Everything looked brand new. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Putting on glasses for the first time was one of those life-changing experiences that I will never forget. I knew that I needed glasses for sure at that point. For some reason, I never got my own pair of glasses until the end of my seventh grade year. On the last day of school, I got to show them off to everyone. I was thankful to Lucky for letting me borrow his extra pair of glasses for such a long time. I guess you could say that I was very "lucky" to be his friend.

Ever since I received my first pair of glasses, my relationship with glasses, in general, has still been a little strained. My glasses are either constantly getting lost or just not getting worn because of my own insecurities about how people will perceive me with them on. I think I look a lot more handsome with them off, so that influences me to take them off at certain parts of the day. Having to constantly readjust them and wipe them off is pretty annoying too. Sometimes, I just don't wear them for legitimate reasons because they can cause headaches or make my eyes extremely weak and tired. My habit of squinting still exists, even when I have my glasses (as I've been told). I still have people to this day making fun of me or questioning why I squint so much or don't wear my glasses. For someone who just started wearing glasses and hates wearing them in the first place, it's difficult to explain the relationship I have with my glasses. Though they do annoy me, I'm really thankful for my glasses. If I were more organized, I think I would just call it day and start wearing contacts from now on. I think we all know, though, I would forget to take those out too.