

Eric Seiley

"About Us" Essay for Website

BelieveReaderStories.godaddysites.com

April 2023

Why I Write

When Dad passed away at 73 years old, I posthumously discovered three slim diaries in his desk he had written for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020 respectively. One for each of the last three years he lived.

The diaries were a shock considering Dad was not, to say the least, a fan of the literary arts. He thought poetry, journaling, and other such "flowery" art forms to be very unmanly if they were not in the realm of his beloved "action" tales lived vicariously. So, finding three personal diaries was like discovering Thomas Jefferson had written not one, but three declarations of independence.

Sadly, despite the initial promise, my father's diaries were non-starters - just a few pages of anemic entries mostly of the "poor me" variety.

Still the idea of a lineage diary interested me. I wondered if my own daughters, Olivia and Grace - whom I greatly adore - would like to have some literary reminder of their father?

But not a diary. Diaries, I wholly believe, tend to be too narcissistic and, frankly, boring as a medium. If I were to write, what I wrote would have to be entertaining. And informative about me as a person and the roles I value without being self-indulgent. I've been a father, a son, a friend, a Christian, a retired policeman and

former detective, a psychiatric nurse, an avid pickleball player. You get the idea. Anything I wrote need be worthy without being regressive or trite.

So, in January of 2020, I began my own writing project. A few tentative paragraphs that turned into a few pages that progressed into the essays, short stories, book reviews, movie critiques, letters, and grumpy old man blog filling out the contents of this webpage.

You should know not everything I have written is factually accurate or historically sound. I took a few liberties in the interest of better fiction. But the work is one hundred percent true to who I am, how I got here, and what I believe in. My "voice" as they say. Which just about every writer, editor, and *how to write* book states I must find to be successful. All is fair in art, I suppose. So, if you're looking for an autobiography or gossip rag - go ask my ex-wife. She was there for a lot of it and, as I have learned, never forgets anything. Mainly, I just tried to tell interesting tales you hopefully enjoy reading. And if you happen to find the work poignant - and the writer wise beyond his years - so much the better.

One day - when I am long gone - everything will be handed over to my daughters, Olivia and Grace, in the hope they will enjoy reading my works as much as I did creating them.

I love you, Olivia. I love you, Grace.

All this is me writing for you with all the love I have in my heart.

Sincerely, Your Dad,

Eric