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English 101: College Writing I (NA)

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Rough Draft of Literacy Narrative Due

My Literacy Narrative is connected to my mom's lack of literature during her childhood, I had books before I was born and reading at home was as normal as talking to each other. Reading time was fun time until the cable TV came, but the same way it came it went away because she took off when I stopped reading to watch TV.

My mom's name is Isaura, she was born and raised on a farm with no books, her and her brothers and sisters use to go to school, but school but the school in the countryside was not good enough. When she moved to the city to pursue her high school diploma, she almost fail the year, she struggled a lot with Portuguese, she was able to read the words, but she was not able to really understand what she was reading. After that, when she was in college, she struggled again although this time her difficulties were with the most spoken language in the world. Because of that she decided that when she had a child, she would teach the importance of reading and studying English, and she would make it a habit in her house.

Since I can remember myself, I have books and my mom read. Before I learned how to read, I already knew how to tell Grimm's fairy tales (the children's version) because I had the collection with all the books. I was 6 when my mom gave me the English version of the fairy tales and when I was 10, she enrolled me in extra English classes. And why I am telling all that?

Because reading and studying English was a rule. She never thought that I would study in the United States, this was my choice and because of her, I was ready for it.

I was 7 or 8 years old when cable television became popular in Brazil and my mother decided to buy cable TV. I remember employees from the cable company going to my house and installing the antenna on a Friday and coming back the following Tuesday to take it back, because my mother backed out of the contract. Can you imagine why she went back on the contract? Because these days I don't read, I spent the weekend watching TV, on Monday I didn't want to do my homework, I wanted to watch cartoons. She had two choices: have conflicts at home over the TV or cancel cable TV. She canceled the service, at the age of eight I was not interested in the TV programs or local news (they were free) and my mother watched the local news at lunch time and the national news at night.