

Prodigy Writing Contest
165 south 800 west
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Dear Storm Bowling,

A Prodigy is not a person who is naturally amazing and destined for greatness. Prodigies are people who listen because they constantly are looking for ways to improve their game. People who stay dedicated not because they must to improve, but because they love to do it. A person who Always sets new goals for themselves always pushing themselves to the best of their abilities no matter what they have previously accomplished. That person is a real prodigy, because you can have all the talent in the world, but it doesn't do any good if you aren't willing to work hard. I'm the first to admit that I am not the best bowler around right now, but I love to bowl and I know have what it takes to be the next bowling prodigy.

No person is perfect, just like no bowler is perfect no matter what your average may be. Bowlers all have small habits that can come back to bite them at any time, even the pro's and if someone is not willing to listen, they will not improve. I have always been an easy person to coach and willing to try anything a coach tells me if it means improving my game. I also watch as many coaching videos as can because there is always room for improvement. I know it's important to not only listen to your coach but also listen to your ball and pay attention to what it is doing. You must know when to move, prodigy's cant stay and try to force a shot to work, moving is a must if someone wants to be good. I am pretty good at moving but I could still use some improvement on that area of my game

Bowling to me is not just a hobby it's my life. Everyone in my family bowls and I started in the 5th grade not knowing that my family used to bowl all the time. The game was not forced upon me, I started because I wanted to and have loved it ever since. Other sports were fun to me, but bowling just feels right and I know this is what I was meant to do. One of the many things that make bowling great is the people you meet. Bowlers are always fun people and you're around them so much you can tell their good days from bad and you get to know their style as if it was your own.

As long as I am physically able, I will bowl and there is nobody who can stop me from doing what I love to do. To be a prodigy you must have the right attitude and mindset towards the game and I definitely have it. When I have my good days the feeling is amazing I just want to keep going. The first thing I want to do is go practice so I can make my good scores even better, hoping practice will prevent bad days. When those bad days do come around it is kind of disappointing but as long as I am bowling I always have fun. Bad days are part of the sport; they will happen you just have to get over the fact that everyday cant be a good day. I would much rather bowl badly than not bowl at all and Good or bad prodigies always loves what he or she does, and I couldn't love it anymore.

Another key thing a prodigy must have is a goal, if your just starting or a veteran a goal is a must. Goals show your determination and the amount of heart you have for the game. Right now my high game is a 289, and in that game I had the front ten. I was both

disappointed and happy at the same time but I felt more determined than anything else. Right then I decided my goal was to shoot 300 before I graduate high school and I have come close many times but I have yet to accomplish this goal. I want to get a perfect game for everyone in my family, past or present who has not shot one before. They can consider it their own until they shoot one, because mine will be for the entire Waterman family. My high school bowling experience has been fun, freshman year my team took second in our division at state. We battled back from the middle of the pack and it may not have been first but we were very proud of ourselves. It was funny because I don't think my teammates had ever heard me be that loud before, I lost my voice for a couple days from all the cheering. The next two years we didn't manage to do as well but I managed to make the all-state team and have been anchor since freshman year. Those years were still a blast and of course each year I lost my voice. The cheering is one of the best parts of state; it always gets the team going. This year most of the team has graduated and we don't have enough for a full team, so my goal is to place in the top 5 in state for singles. I miss my teammates and who knows maybe I can win it for them. The High School league is a travel league and my average was 190 last year and I am looking to improve it by at least 10 pins this year. Another big goal of mine that I would love to achieve is to go pro, I can't think of anything that would give me a better feeling. I know the chances of being pro are slim but that will not stop me from trying. It is one of my ultimate goals in life and despite my chances I will always do the best I possibly can. If it doesn't happen I will still know that I gave it everything I had and never held back. Maybe if things don't work out I can start up my own bowling alley some day, and owning one would definitely be the next best thing to going pro. As long I have goals for myself, in my mind I will always feel like a prodigy no matter what happens in my life.

A prodigy is not just a person with talent. An individual who has love for what they do and is willing to constantly work to improve their game not because they are told to improve, but because in their heart its what they truly want to do more than anything. A person with those characteristics is a true prodigy and that person is me. In the small amount of time I have been bowling I have loved every second I have spent out on the lanes and I look forward to the many years to come. So far I may not have accomplished much but I have the potential to accomplish any goal I set. There may be very few guarantees in life but I know for a fact that I will always love this sport till the day I die, and no matter what anyone says I know who I am. I am the next bowling prodigy.

Sincerely,

Aaron Waterman