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#### Section 1

Ernesto Eduardo Cantu

#### Dear Grandchildren,

The year is 1995; I have just started college at the University of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, and am learning how to manage my money. There is no more splurging at the mall on compact disks, disks containing music for listening pleasure, or buying expensive clothing. I have learned the real value of the dollar bill, it is one hundred pennies now, not just another buck. As you grow older you will realize that money controls everyones life, or at least in my lifetime it does.

Growing up I never had the most expensive clothing or the ever so popular, "Air Jordan's". These are shoes endorsed by Michael Jordan for Nike. Michael Jordan is a basketball player for the Chicago Bulls, an NBA Franchise. My parents could not see themselves spending so much money on something that is manufactured the same as a less expensive product. Every once in a while my parents would spoil me by giving me money and letting me buy whatever I wanted. Now that the money is coming out of my own pocket, I come to realize how expensive material objects really are. I look at things in a whole new perspective now that I am working hard to earn money. A couple of days before school started I walked into Staples Mall located in Corpus Christi. I went to a sporting goods store named CHAMPS where I saw a replica jersey of "Magic" Johnson for an unbelievable price of \$40. "Magic" Johnson is one of the best basketball players to ever play professionally. During the 1980's he lead the Los Angeles Lakers, another NBA Franchise, to five world titles. He is famous, but I couldn't believe that someone would pay so much money for a muscle shirt just because it resembled the one worn by this great basketball star. Another thing that I saw that was very expensive was a pair of shoes named Rockports for \$230, I said to myself, "are these shoes made of gold or what?" Evidently they were made of leather, so I passed up on them. As I continued my walk around the mall I stopped to grab a bite to eat. It costs about \$5 to eat a hamburger with some fries and a drink at McDonald's. This price is average for a fast food meal. Finally, on my way home from the mall, in my \$12,000 1995 Ford Escort, I stopped to fill up the gas tank. I always try to find the least expensive gas station, and \$1.01 per gallon was the best price. I also purchased a 20 oz. Coca Cola (a refreshing softdrink) for 75 cents and a lottery ticket for \$1.

Money is the heart of all the problems in the world today. Everyone wants to have control, no one wants to be told what to do. Greed is a major problem that we face. Prices go up because the producers know we cannot live without the basic necessities of life which are food, shelter, water, and oxygen, so a profit is made by those who control these necessities. Learned wants also control our spending habits. Learned wants are material objects that we as consumers have learned to want to keep up with new styles and be cool (good person to be around) with others. Education is the key to success, it gives you the power needed to survive in society.

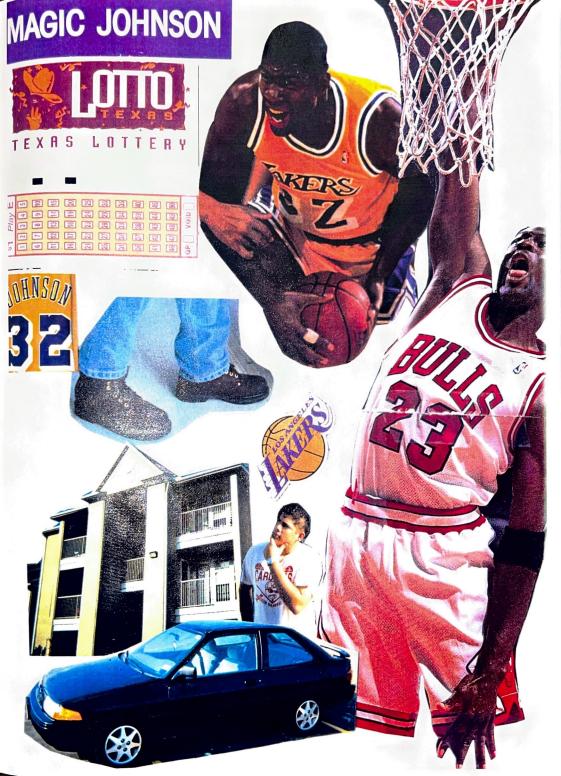
I don't know how much a Coca Cola will cost in the year 2040, but when we think of the 75 cents we pay now and think it is a high price, you will probably laugh because the price is so different from what you will be paying. I hope I am still alive when you

read this letter so I can answer any questions you might have about my life, just as my grandfather explained with me. I love you all, and always remember to follow your dreams.

Your Grandfather,

Ernesto Eduardo Canta

Ernesto Eduardo Cantu



### Section 2

Damon Robert Donoho

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October 16, 1995 Final Draft - 8G

Dear grandchildren,

Our world is always changing and adapting to new technology, so I'm sure that by the time you read this letter, everything I am doing will be out of style. In order to understand how our world is right now, it would be best to tell you all the things I

do on a typical Monday of college.

I wake up at 6:00 on Monday mornings, take a shower, and then prepare to go to work. It usually takes me 30 minutes to get to work, Nueces Veterinary Hospital, so I leave my apartment, located on campus, at about 6:30. I have a blue, 1993 Chevorlet truck, and this is how I get to work. I am currently a veterinarian assistant for Dr. Brad C. Hoke, so I have to arrive at the clinic early in order to get the clinic ready for the day. During this time I walk the dogs, clean cages, set up the computer, and take appointments for surgery. Since I have a class at 10:00, I usually leave the clinic about 9:15 on Mondays and travel back to Texas A&M - Corpus Christi.

My class at 10:00 is a large, lecture course called Political Science, and it usually has about 250 students in attendance. This course mainly deals with the United States government, how it works, and what it accomplishes. Then at 12:00, I have another lecture course, American Political History. This course is in nearly the same format as my first course, but instead deals with America's history and explains how America has gotten to where it is. Immediately after this, at 1:00 in the afternoon, I go to my last class, a Zoology course, which is the only class that I am currently taking for my Biology major. The course deals with the Animal and Protista Kingdoms, and goes into depth on the specific phyla within each.

Then I usually go to the gym to work out in the weight room, and basically relieve some of the stress I have felt throughout Often times I play some racquetball with my friend. Scott Walker, because it is a sport that involves a lot of Then at about 5:30, I go home and take another quick This is usually the time when I do some studying and homework, before watching the exciting Monday Night Football

One of my greatest interest, is watching football, and my favorite team, the Dallas Cowboys, are playing well enough to be I really like all the players on the team. in Super Bowl XXX. but there are particular ones that stand out from the rest. Aikman, the quarterback, is one of the greatest quarterbacks in the NFL (National Football League), and MVP (Most Valuable Player) of Super Bowl XXVII. Emmitt Smith, the running back, has won two rushing titles, broke several records, and was the MVP of Super Bowl XXVIII. And then there is Michael Irvin, a wide receiver. who is the leading receiver this year, and preparing for a successful climb to the top. It is stars like these players, that make watching the Dallas Cowboys so exciting.

This brings me to the Monday Night Football game at 8:00. which usually features very exciting teams within the NFL. This game is usually very good, allows me to relax from the day's tiresome events. After football ends at 11:00, I usually

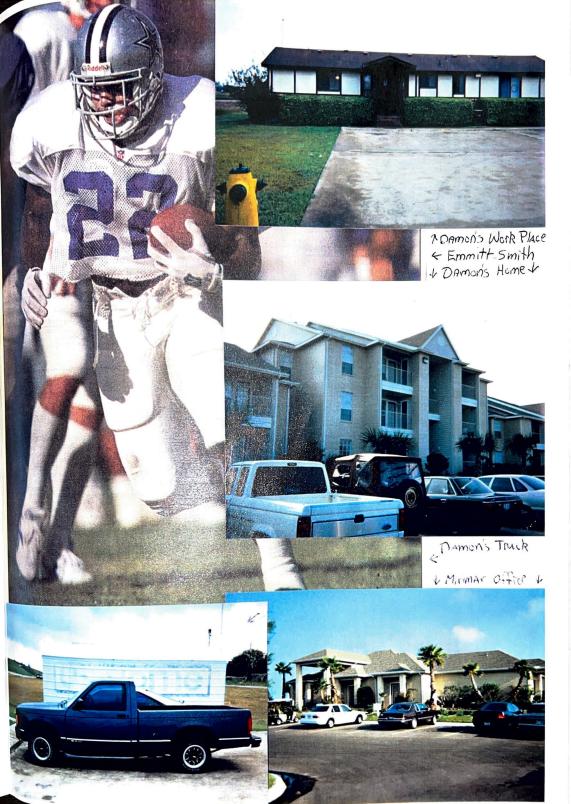
do some assigned reading until I drift off to sleep.

So now you have a better idea of what all your grandfather

does on a typical Monday. I hope that the future is showing you how far our world has changed since I was in college, and I also hope you have learned from my experiences. Good luck in the future, and I hope you enjoy your college years.

Your grandfather,

Damon Donoho



#### Section 3

# Jeremy Glen Pendergast

Jeremy Pendergast Composition 101 BG October 19, 1995 Final Draft

My dear grandchildren.

Contrary to what you may think, I wasn't always a bitter and depressed old penny pincher. Once, a long time ago, I was a bitter and depressed young penny pincher. I know you may find this hard to believe, but, yes, your grandfather used to be a college student. Actually, I am a college student. This letter is actually an assignment by my Composition 101 instructor, Dr. Libby Allison. Don't, however, feel slighted by this fact. probably would have gotten around to writing to you eventually. You can thank Dr. Allison though for getting me in gear a little (Actually, it's probably about 35 years early, but who's counting.)

As I said, I am currently enrolled as a full-time college student. Right now, I attend Texas A&M University -- Corpus Christi, Texas, but I'm not sure whether or not I'll stay here. I might move to Austin due to some recurring problems in my ordinarily hum-drum life (but that's another letter entirely!). I'm taking 13 hours this semester, with classes on Monday through

Friday.

My first class on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays is Political Science with Dr. Billeaux. This class is my favorite. This is probably due to the fact that politics and Pendergasts go way back. I'm sure by now you know all about Thomas Pendergast. If not, ask your parents. I'm sure they'll be delighted to tell you all about how he got Harry Truman elected as President of the United States, a position that will no doubt be as highly revered (not to mention corrupt) in your day as it was in his

My other class on these days is Political History with Dr. Wooster. This is another great class. It starts at 12:00 and gets out at 12:50. Dr. Wooster really takes history seriously, which is great. It really helps make the class much more interesting. This course requires a lot of reading. really the only downside, but that's not even that bad.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I go to three other classes. First, I have Composition with the aforementioned Dr. Allison. This class will be the death of me, partly because I never took my English classes in high school seriously, and partly because I can't write a good paper to save my life. Hopefully this letter will be filled with enough heart-felt sentiment to get me a good grade. . .

My second class is Freshman Seminar with Dr. Holbrook. won't even to begin describing this class. It is a pure scheduling nightmare. Luckily, my classmates and instructor are all wise enough to agree with me on this point, so we all get

along just fine.

My third class on Tuesdays and Thursdays is Social and Cultural History of the U.S. It is the second semester version of Political History. I'm not sure why I'm taking it. It's an Okay class. We cover much of the same material as the Political History class, so this class really isn't that hard. I must admit, though, that this class is a little boring, and it isn't hard at all to find reasons not to go.

Well, those are my classes. Nothing too impossible. Just

enough to keep me on my toes.

As far as living conditions on campus, I'd say I'm doing fairly well. I live in the Miramar University Apartments on campus. Walking to class from home only takes about 5 minutes, so transportation is no problem. The apartments are nice, and I get along great with my roommate (probably known to you as great uncle Eric Spolans). The only problem that concerns me (actually it concerns my parents more than me) is food. Eric and I are always without it. I guess that's fine, because our friends always bring over something to eat. Lately, I've taken to be a bit of a vegetarian (never a vegan -- I couldn't bring myself to give up cheese or chocolate) so I've been cooking a lot of beans and rice. My latest "bean escapade" has left me frazzled. I've been cooking the damn things for two days, and they're still a little crunchy. Kids, trust me, buy canned beans. The dried, "do-it-yourself" beans take far too long.

Well, I've given you quite a little bit about myself, and I don't even know you yet. I hope this letter reaches you in the best of health. Chances are, I'll be seeing you around sometime. Tell your mom and dad I said hi. Come to think of it, tell them to call me if they get the chance. It'll be great to hear from them. (That is, I think it will be great to hear from them. I

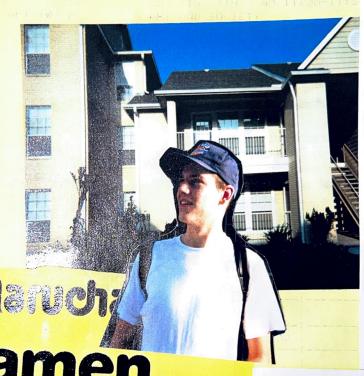
don't even know who they are yet!)

Love and best wishes,

Grandpa Pendergast



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Texas A&MUniversity-Corpus Christi The Island University

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STATEMENT STATEMENT

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

### About the Authors



Ernesto Eduardo Cantu is seeking a double major in kinesiology/biology. He hopes to become an educational instructor/coach at high school level.



Damon Donoho is seeking a major in Biology at Texas A&M. He hopes to eventually gain acceptance into Texas A&M University College Station Veterinary School.



Jeremy Pendergast is currently enrolled in Texas A&M University -- Corpus Christi. He is majoring in sleep deprevation and hopes to one day be a contender.