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Commentary on "Every Scar Tells a Story"

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**Commentary by Ellie Swensson
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One of the strongest aspects of “Every Scar Tells a Story” is its unique voice. Alex Daniels has done a great job of establishing and maintaining a voice that the reader can both relate to and trust, which is important when reading a paper with a personal emphasis. A strong voice like that in this paper not only attracts the reader but also aids in developing coherence and unity throughout the piece. With a consistent voice, Daniels is able to connect his thoughts in a logical way, giving the paper a coherence that the reader can easily follow. Another strength of this paper is Daniels’ choice of subject to discuss his topic. Taking a physical subject, such as scars, and using it to illustrate deeper themes, such as the importance of individuality and the value of spontaneity, is an extremely effective strategy for papers of this genre. When handling subjective topics, physical examples and images strengthen the paper because the themes addressed become much clearer to the reader. Daniels’ paper effectively uses scars just as more scholarly- based works would use quotes and citations – to prove the thesis that individuality and “the willingness to step outside the norm” should be celebrated and embraced.