So apparently my name is Cody Payne. But what does that even mean? I was born on February 3rd, 1993 in Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. I think Autobiographies are weird but it’s an essential requirement to getting my high school diploma. But once again, what does that even mean? We live in a world where we are conditioned to think and live in a specific routine and way of life. This “way of doing things” that we are taught is full of obligatory distractions that lead us away from the true nature of things. I try to see through the fog and get some sort of frame of reference to our nature of being but the fog is thick, milky white and virtually blinding, so it makes it hard to get a clear picture.

These distractions begin when we are sent to school. From a young age we are put in rooms together all day and taught the “way of doing things”. School is not a bad thing all together; in fact it is a very important tool to our evolutionary development but is misused in the way that it’s designed to create a product rather than a person. I always liked learning new things but I felt that the majority of the curriculum was irrelevant to my education. I want to learn things that will be useful to me in life not trivial facts to remember, recite, and forget. If education is an evolutionary tool then we need to take it more seriously. Some of the most important parts of what I learned in school were not taught to me in a class. School teaches us what but not why. You will learn the most about life and the world through self-discovery rather than any compulsory education system. We are not taught to think for ourselves; instead we are herded like sheep into the clone factory to become mindless tools. After eight and a half empty years of thoughtless mind forming, I decided that it was enough for me. I wanted to move forward and out of the colorless, monotone institution.

I had known of Yampah for some time before I decided to enroll. Both of my brothers and my sister had attended this school long before I was even thinking about high school. I sort of wondered why I had never considered it before; it just made more sense. I enjoyed Yampah since the first day I came here. I have been at Yampah for some time now, basically all of my time in high school. I have done good and bad and great and I have had a lot of fun. This is not a traditional autobiography but I feel that it speaks about who I am and I know that the people at this school will understand and that is what makes this school what it is. Am glad I have had the opportunity to experience this school and attend all the way through. I will definitely always remember this school as the place where I became who I am.