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Story Project Process Reflection

Word Count: 590

Grade Level: A

The story started from my free writing for my found poetry project. It started out as an idea for a story, but I decided to work on expanding it more into a universe, into a place where multiple stories could be set. I wasn't sure where I wanted to go with it, so I decided to just jump to what could theoretically be another place in the story, but then I realized that I could leave what I had started with as the backdrop, and keep moving from place to place, from story to story. This seemed easier to me as I am really bad at actually finishing stories in ways that I like, and I though being able to bounce around when a new idea came to me would work better than trying to bang my head against the wall to try and make what I was writing work. I realized that if I was going to be making a universe that I would need to give some more background on it and who lived in the universe, so I moved on to trying to think of species that could live in my universe and populate it. I didn't want to just keep saying aliens in general when referring to anyone in my story who wasn't human, so I needed to have established races to talk about.

I had a hard time actually thinking of designs and names for these species. I tried to pull off of existing things and change them a bit to make them unique, but I had a hard time visualizing exactly what I wanted them to look like, so it was hard to describe them. I suppose that concrete details in general are hard for me. Describing every little thing and being able to paint a picture of what things look like is not something that I am good at. Physically typing the draft was also something I struggled with, due to having to peck type with one or two hands depending what point I was at when I was writing. It was frustrating when I actually knew what I wanted to say, but I couldn't get it out because I couldn't type fast enough, and when I did it took twice as long as it would have normally.

I know that my tone probably shifted as I went through, but I am still not sure what tone I want or how I should set it. It started out as a serious story, but I ended up throwing elements of stupidity in because I got sick of writing seriously, and I am not sure how well they fit together, or if it is a good balance of the two. If I expand it more and write more stories this is something I will have to figure out. I'm not sure how easy it would be to go back and adjust the tone of what I have written, so if I do decide to expand this story/universe more in the future, that is something I will need to figure out and get set before I get too far. Or I will at least need to set the tone for the universe, as I think it might be interesting to swap tones. Actually, that makes me think of something I could do. Write a two part or two-sided story with one very dark and gritty, and one absurd and silly. Switching tones randomly might not work well, but deliberately playing them off of each other might.