

“Desire” - A Personal Narrative - In-Class Work

In Isak Dinesen’s excerpt from *Out of Africa* entitled, “The Iguana,” she describes several instances in which she desired something and then received the object of her desire. But, once she got what she wanted, she found that it lacked the life that it had initially. This life could have been given by the initial owner/wearer of the object (as in the case of the bracelet), by the actual life of a living thing (in the case of the iguana), or by a more figurative sense of “life” that an object has when it exists as something in our imagination before we actually possess it.

Consider a time when you really wanted something, got what you wanted, but then found your prize to be somehow different than you expected. Bring this personal narrative to life by taking your reader into the situation surrounding the object of your desire, the emotions you felt before possessing the object, and the emotions you felt sometime after receiving the object. The final draft of your narrative should be at least 5 paragraphs in length and should be written as a story.

Conclude your narrative by considering the following question: What does your personal experience suggest about the nature of desire?