

## On Essay Movement

Analysis of Nancy Mairs's "On Being a Cripple"

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General Movement

Title → Quote → Anecdote (in the present) → Context/history → Rollercoaster of happy/sad moments → ???

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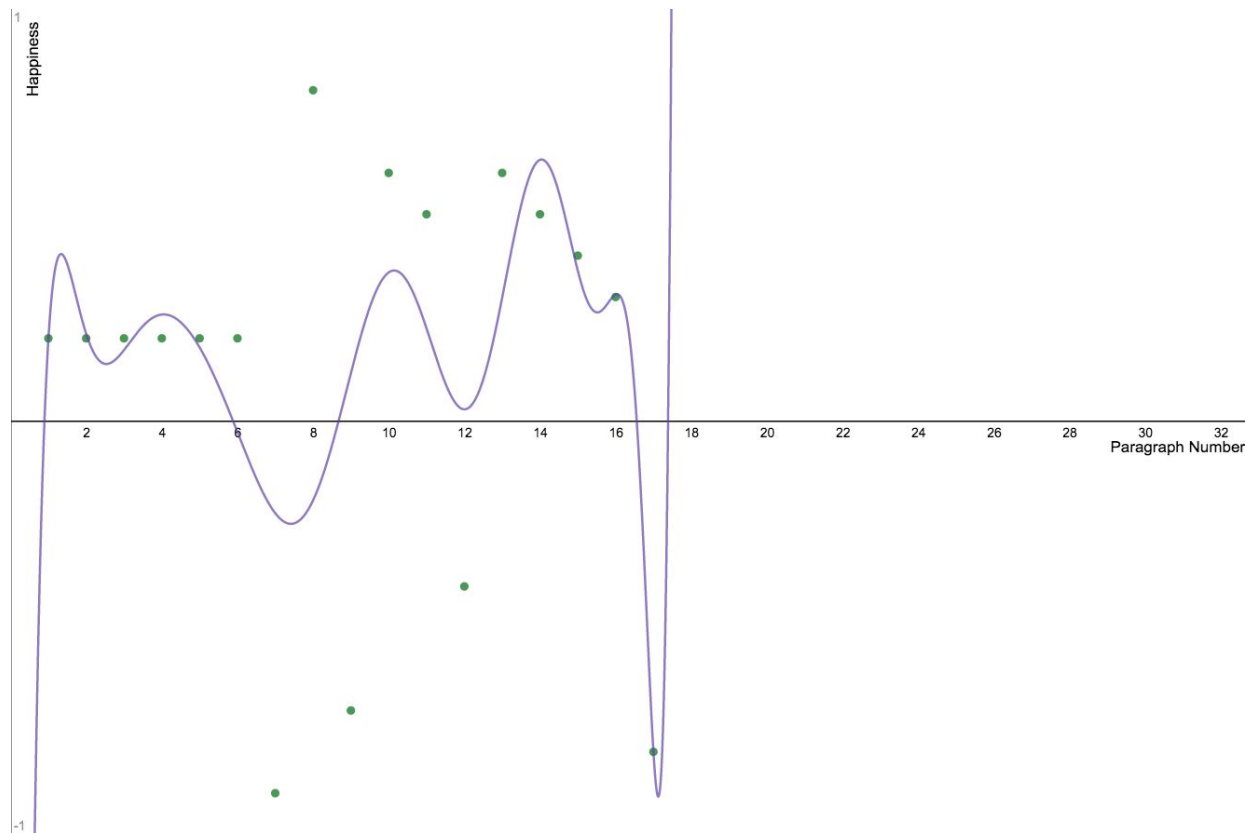
Paragraph-by-Paragraph Analysis

¶ # (pp.)	Purpose	Effect / Tone
Quote	Just to confuse the reader	???
1 (1)	Exigency, set in the present, funny hook	positive
2	Semantics of cripple — characterization of her toughness, choosing a label	meh
3	Semantics of cripple — technicality, idea that changing words doesn't change reality	meh
4	Contextualization of society as not accepting imperfections, relationship with society	meh
5 (1-2)	Pre-crippled self, relationship with non-crippled-ness, nostalgia, characterization by past actions	positive
6	<b>Transition into becoming a cripple, denial</b>	<b>negative</b>
7	Scientific definition of MS, possibilities of MS, defining her condition (but not her)	negative
8	Like saying, "Don't be really depressed" — fight against depression of last paragraph, more hopeful	positive
9	Qualification of last paragraph, say that MS is actually pretty bad	negative
10	Qualification of last paragraph, say that her life has not changed too dramatically	positive
11 (2-3)	Characterization of life outside MS — separating herself from the disease	positive-ish

12	Qualification of MS — difficulties of MS, actually pretty bad	negative
13	Qualification of MS — funny things, nothing totally sad or happy	positive
14	Self-amusement, relationship help	positive
15	Explaining her good luck and how it could be worse	positive-ish
16	Continue w/ description of her family, ordinary family; introduce idea of falsity at end	positive → negative
17	Explain her insecurities, hates to be connected with the disease by others	negative
18	Social pressure to please people, fakeness	meh
19 (4-6)	People get used to her condition, self-characterization, role in society	meh
20	No place for cripples in society	negative
21	Bad self-image, self-characterization by appearance	negative
22	Qualification, change over time, appearances don't really matter	positive
23	The realization — disease doesn't define her	INSPIRATIONAL
24	Qualification, continue positive idea, things worse than death (MS?)	Positive → negative
25	Juxtaposition: bad and good ways to deal with problem	meh
26	Old vulnerabilities → current strength, change over time	Negative → positive
27	Life was too good to feel bad about MS	positive
28	Anecdote of getting over her troubles	positive
29 (6-7)	Realization, qualification, MS always there	negative

30	No true treatment	negative
31	Qualification — new positivity, things learned	positive
32	Not sad being a cripple	positive
33	Qualification — doesn't like MS per se, but would rather take the brunt of it than have others suffer	INSPIRATIONAL

Graph of Movement (so far):



<https://www.desmos.com/calculator/nafzj6uufz>