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### **Laws of Life**

Life has the most complicated definition associated with it because life is not a word we can sum up and write into a book. Life is humanity. Life is, in a sense, living. It drives us to our actions, and to preserve life is our goal as thinking humans. We think life to be an unfair thing from time to time, driving us crazy or depression because of an incident that hurt us or the ones for whom we care deepest. So leaving life behind is the choice of some, and we all feel like situating the noose and kicking out the chair at times; but, this is cheating. To get out is not the answer, but maybe to live on and see a day where this tragedy has good reason behind it is. I know this because I've seen my hopes die, only to realize later that if they hadn't, I wouldn't be complete.

My father and mother called my brother and me into the family room three days after the terrorist attacks on September eleventh. They said that there was something we all needed to discuss, and naturally I figured it was about the recent plane crashes; however, my soul crashing seemed to be our topic. They spoke of an upcoming divorce, and I think my heart split in two when they said this - half for each parent to try and mend without success. And so as it was said, it happened. My mom moved out of our house, into an apartment, and then into a house in Dublin with her new boyfriend. I spent all my time with my dad for a few months to come. Fridays and Saturdays he was my date, and having my dad around like this was new to me. He had always been a working man, early starts and late hours so my mom had been the main parent most of my life, but at this time he had been laid off from his job and was all mine. The divorce between my parents was, so I thought, the worst event that would occur to me in my lifetime. Their separation was so awful, and then in a heartbeat it was great.

Just getting back from my class vacation I got news of my father's lung cancer. He had had muscle pains, but steroids had helped that, and he was happier than ever. This was all a lie, though. Throughout the three months of summer his condition became worse and worse, and it became clear that he wasn't going to get better. The time came in my second week of school that saying our goodbyes were needed, and just like the flap of a hummingbird's wing, he was gone. You may ask how his sickness and my parents divorce are connected. That divorce meant my mom was gone like never before, and I spent time with my dad. Had the separation not happened, I would have never in my life known my dad as the person I learned he was in those last few months with him.

The entire event of my life may be irrelevant to you or to the "laws of life" topic, but the relevancy is quite clear. A word that I think is the most important aspect of our being that I would like to point out is "attitude". This characteristic about someone is what we base our opinions of a person on, after physical appearance. I would like to say that this event was tragic to me, and I know I could have crawled up in a corner and wallowed over it for years, and no one would have blamed me for it either. And sometimes, I admit, this is all I want to do. Attitude is a big thing for me, though, and in all aspects I try to keep an upbeat and happy feeling about everything because I have found it makes life much more enjoyable. Being sad is too much work and makes you seem cold and angry; this turns people away, and then your life is worse because friends are harder to come by. So to be positive makes you attract people that can, in turn, help you though your times.

To sum up, attitude is a crucial part of what people think of us, and it determines our actions in our complicated lives. To have a positive attitude and outlook on life could make all the difference in the world. Past experiences of my own have informed me that to break down or to stop would ruin everything I'd hoped for in this life yet to live. Life, no matter how you would like to see it, is not good

to everyone. So don't take the easy way out, live through it with a happy attitude and become a person that has learned and use the knowledge to help people in the future with your given situation.