

# What is a Memoir?

A memoir is a narrative written about an important event in the author's life that affected them in some way.

## Characteristics of Memoirs:

- A memory; a description of a *true* past event
- Written in the 1<sup>st</sup> person
- Reveals the *feelings* of the writer
- Has meaning; shows what the author *learned* from the experience
- About the author's *experience* more than about the event itself

# Where to Start and End?

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- Where to start:
  - Choose an event in your life:
    - That was a turning point.
    - Where you learned a hard lesson.
    - That changed you for the better.
    - That made you a stronger person.
- Where to end:
  - Make sure to address one of these questions
    - What did you learn?
    - Why is the experience meaningful?
    - Why is it important to you?