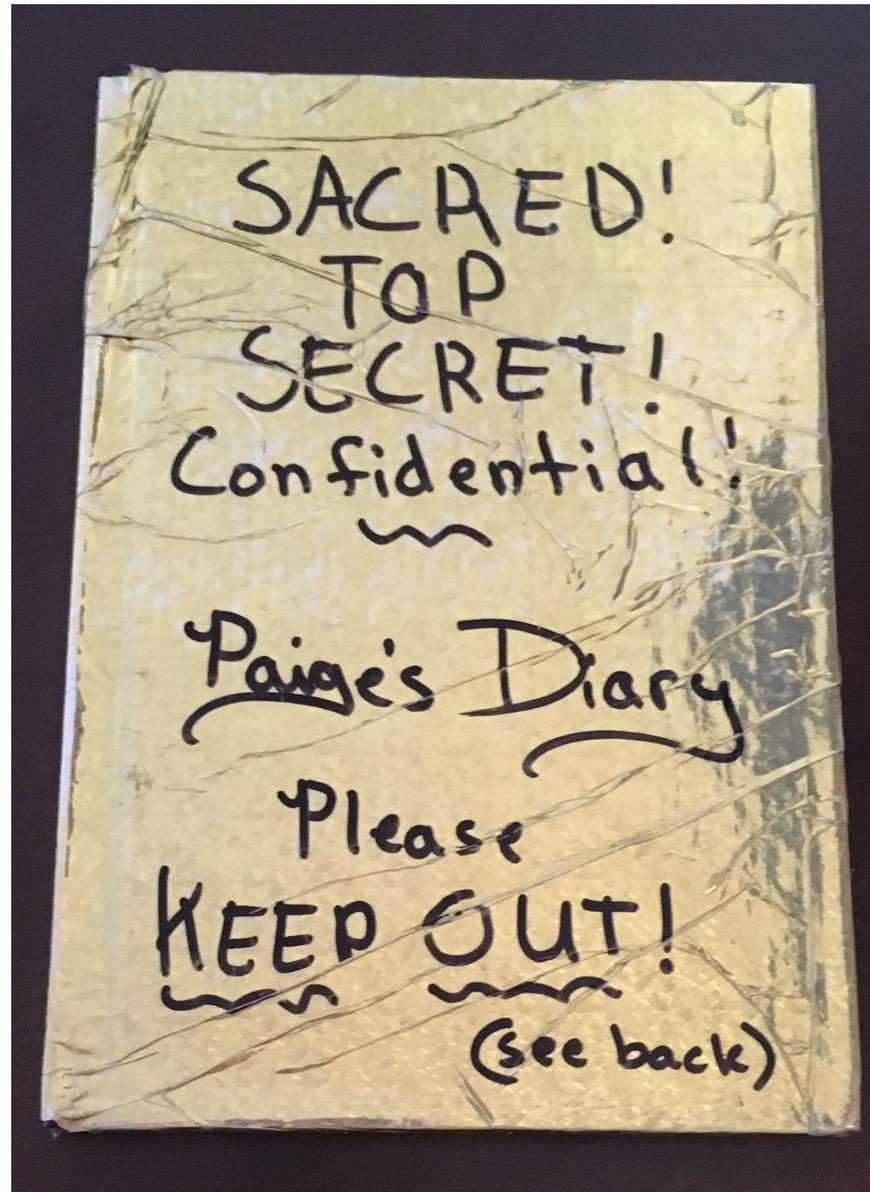


Paige Melin



april 5, 2005, tuesday

I think I may have achieved self-actualization

I don't know how
or even if
but I just

feel a lot more free

maybe it's because
a huge burden has been lifted
off of me

after 3
or 4 years of
keeping a secret I finally
told

and now, possibly my
deepest, darkest secret is shared

but I've been rocking out to this tune
in my head
all day

& I just feel
really
open

oh, yeah
baby!

I think Green Day
receives less attention
than they deserve some
of their songs
are really good &
not weird.

I
just wrote an okay song
called “unbreakable”

I think daddy sees
that I’m getting
older,

& I think
I see it too

I don’t
want it to happen

but I feel like a change that I can’t help is taking place

april 23, 2005, saturday

I've decided
that I should be
an actress

yesterday's events led me
to believe so

“what
were yesterday's events?”
you might ask

well
first things first

yesterday
was codee's birthday party
it was:

all of her friends went to play lasertag
then cake & presents at her house with friends & family
then a sleepover with her friends

the part at her house
was embarrassing
I was wearing
my Green Day tshirt

first, uncle b asked
what “american idiot”
meant

then, uncle r asked
if I liked
Green Day

then
they asked if my dad let me listen to them

I said
no, felt myself
going red - uncle r said
“I didn’t think
he would they’re a little...

rough.”

I left the room.

as if
all of this wasn’t bad enough -
as my family
was getting ready
to leave (I
was staying
for the sleepover)
mommy kept
pulling me aside
telling me

“if they listen to Green Day just
leave the room. don’t make a fuss. just
walk away. I don’t want you
hearing swears or
anything.’

and

“if they’re searching
bad things
on the web just
leave.”

and as she was hugging me

“remember
if they do anything you don’t like,
just leave.”

I felt
so bad
for all the times I’ve
listened

to Green Day, for taping
uncensored
Green Day songs, for getting
that stupid
shirt

I didn't want to stay

I knew that I would end up
having to lie
about what I did -
I'd been lying
about what I'd done at codee's house
since march
and I knew
I didn't want
to lie anymore.

so I told her I had a stomach ache
that it hurt really bad
that I thought it was cramps that I just
wanted to go home
& sleep

& I must have lied pretty good because
by the time we all left
everyone
was telling me that they really
did hope I get better soon

it was the first
time in my life that I'd faked
being sick

so I've officially decided
that if I can't
get into politics

I should be an actress

may 5, 2005, thursday

today
is five-five-
oh-five next year
it will be
six-six-six
(beware the devil) last year
it was
four-four-
four

livi
came over and we were
laughing
like crazy because

we were pulling out our hairs
with a mint box & looking
at the follicles

(don't ask me
what goes through
our heads)

I wrote a poem about it
entitled

“the cinco de mayo” poem

may 15, 2005, sunday

we sat outside
some kind of
retirement home we ate our
italian food then we
walked into some
antique stores

(where we saw
a beautiful
tortoise shell
inkwell that was inlaid with
mother-of-pearl)

we got two
arizona green teas and a seriously
frosting-covered
honey bun we sat
in front of a church

eating

& drinking

we walked into another
antique shop we found
a telephone desk
from the 50s then we
bought our find
of the day

The contents of this
diary are **TOTALLY**
SECRET. To access
them, enter the secret
code.

H	Y	X	8
...	↑	T	∟
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SECRET
STARTER

If you enter the wrong
code, this diary will
self-destruct in 3-2-1