

## Questions

Interviewer- Tom

Note taker- Enrique

Audio tech.- JJ

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2. Did you enlist while in high school?
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## Storyboard Template

### Theme-

Undecided	Audio story	Music	Other
Before the military, before signing up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Him talking about his life before the military.</li> <li>● As a highschool student</li> <li>● What he thought about the military</li> <li>● How his literacy was</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● His music that he liked to listen to at the time, 2011</li> <li>● Some background chatter of the cafeteria, some oceanside sounds.</li> </ul>	
During the military	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What he did during the military such as job, rank, training, where he deployed</li> <li>● When he enlisted</li> <li>● Literacy during the military and what types</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● That military horn sound starts when he starts explaining his life in the military</li> <li>● Maybe some technical sounds when he describes his job</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	
After military, life as a student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● His transition</li> <li>● The different learning style compared from the military to now as a college student</li> <li>● His job now and what he does</li> <li>● Some classes</li> <li>● What his</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Music he listens to now if it changed</li> <li>● The noise of him riding, or listening to his kandle</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	

	<p>literacy is like and what genres and things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any hardships</li><li>• Outlooks to the future</li><li>•</li></ul>		
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## Interview Transcript

MiraCosta College Student Veteran Oral History Service Learning Project

Interviewee: Cody Ward

Email: cody.ward75@gmail.com

Interviewer's: Tom Rodenhaver, Juan Rivera, Enrique Rodriguez

(Email: Tomrodenhaver@outlook.com / Jayjay39486@yahoo.com /  
Rodriguez.enrique83@yahoo.com)

October 24, 2016

Mira Costa Library

Tom Rodenhaver: Who are you? (00:02)

Cody Ward: I am Cody Ward. (00:03)

TR: Did you enlist while in high school? (00:05)

CW: No couple of months after I graduated high school in June 2011 and I raised my hand into the Army on October 13, and went to boot camp on the 25th. (00:10)

TR: What was your perception of the military before joining? (00:33)

CW: I didn't really know much about it, my brother enlisted in the army in 03 and served invasion of Iraq and he came back he didn't really talk about it much, I didn't know where to go or what to do so I just joined in knowing nothing about it. (00:36)

TR: What was your motivation to why you enlisted? (01:08)

CW: I don't know. I just wanted to get away when I got out of high school. I was already living on my own at the age of 17 with my girlfriend, and I needed to do something. I needed a job and I didn't know what I wanted to do. I thought about going to school but I didn't know much about it--not much guidance and yeah that's the best thing. (01:11)

TR: What was your literacy like before the military? (01:43)

CW: I was a literary. I didn't know a damn thing. It's not a bad thing. I graduated from a continuation high school from Ocean Shores and basically got the boot from the regular high school and decide to do something and it was basically wanting us to graduate and keep us out of the streets so I graduated high school and continued to the Army. (01:47)

TR: Were there any major decisions you had to make before enlisting? (02:22)

CW: To be honest, I don't remember really much. I put parts at lowest and one summer I wash boats it suck and that's when I had to change. (02:30)

TR: People do that in the Navy? (02:55)

CW: Yeah they get paid a lot better too. (02:58)

TR: How was it for you to transition into the military? (03:08)

CW: My brother told me not to join and I went and did it anyways, I had no clue what it will be about and you will see what it was in T.V in the times how Libya went through a revolution when I joined you saw what was going on T.V but I didn't go to entry. Going in was a little

eradicating but it was good I needed it in my life I need directions if you think about it in boot camp it basically teaches you how to clean yourself they teach you everything, I didn't know how to do a bed so a lot of does guys didn't know how to shave their basically raising this people in a short amount of time 3 months. (03:15)

TR: Was the army the first choice? (04:28)

CW: I was a little feather I was 127 pounds first choice was the Navy recruiter and when in there and there was no one in there, they ask him a little about himself how do you have experience of college or anything and I told him I went to this high school and just graduate and I want to join the Navy and said oh really what high school I have a diploma but it's so frown upon to graduate from regular high school I think it was (Bullshit) to talk to a pride Navy, later on he told him to get college credit this is bullshit they are discriminating you he said everyone wants to join the Navy to go see the world. Next I went to the air force they brought out the chart the height and weight and all that and asking him for his weight and told him you're underweight like about a pound dude I could not gain weight for the life of me I try and try. Alright I just go to the army I enlisted in the army and from there I went to do my basic training went to my MOS school I got station for Arizona finish right there and went back home. Join the guard transition right in and now here I am in Mira Costa. (04:56)

TR: What was/is your MOS while you were in? (07:21)

CW: I was a 25 cord back still am I'm stuck with the MOS it going to face out 3 year sum lancer radio guy basically and RTO all the stuff I use in the MOS is has been face out they digital everything and secure. It a radio truck set out an antenna 30 feet high and try to do lots of math and I'm not really good at it.now they have satellites. Been stuck with strikes teams. (07:22)

TR: Is this here in the states or no? (08:55)

CW: Yes here in the state I'm what you call a Pogs went overseas. I've down three overseas. And I was ready to go to Afghanistan I did 3 months in training up north actually in camp Robert. I was deployed said by to my family then they said NO, I was one of the ones that went to pick them up overseas. (08:57)

TR: What was your literacy like while in the army? (09:36)

CW: I actually learned a lot even though all we read is as a six grade level I had lots of boring times pick up a book and start reading them to pass time. I found out what type of person I was going other places or states when I join I was pretty ignorant towards a lot of cultures and people it was like in Oceanside people act the same way like the rest but going south, west you learn how to communicate different and pick up different values experience of you. (09:42)

TR: So you're Oceanside Natives? (10:47)

CW: I am, well born and raised in California natives. (10:51)

TR: And I agree with you what you mean I was born in Texas moved to Kentucky because my grandpa was in the army and closer to Fortnox live close from their and same thing you were saying you pick up with the people and just get stuck with that and then from that I went to great lakes for boot camp from there I went to Florida were at in Florida, Pensacola and then from Florida I came here San Diego for five years and yeah. (11:02)

CW: Pick up bad habits started chewing and still addicted for caffeine I will have 3 red bulls a day. (11:46)

TR: What was the communication like in the army? How? Where? (12:26)

CW: Think about a different lingo I guess I started cursing words. In my communication you could stay in contact with them it more like a brotherhood you could randomly pick up from where you left off right call a friend and meet up with them everywhere if you go in a vacation you meet new people. Different lingo like in a job you want to be properly correct and in the military you could say anything you want to each other. (12:33)

TR: Did your literacy interest change during your service? (14:53)

CW: Yes, I just can't stay out with Wikipedia. I actually don't watch TV I'm really caught up with social media I like reading the news, I like to read PBS and different news. I even have kindle unlimited I even found a passion for reading and a different life. Economics issues he likes and one day hope I want to be a teacher. Impact the youth because is really important. (14:57)

TR: What types of reading you read or focus on? (16:04)

CW: I obviously history reading even different of novels or anything that is real I like to read. (16:09)

TR: And you say you didn't deploy? (16:38)

CW: I've done more things with the guards got to go to more fun places force fire and travel around the states. (16:43)

TR: How are does jobs compare to your others jobs? (17:05)

CW: It way more fun in active duty and you don't know your active duty into you move with them it's like saying you don't know your girlfriend well into you moved in with her. You have a chance to get out of there. In California they all have their own job and struggle so that was way more fun and talk about the racist (17:08)

18:15

TR: What's the most positive thing you can take away from the Army? (18:16)

CW: The most positive thing, definitely makes you grow up cause I don't know what I would have done without it I don't know what you would say I'd probably... (18:22)

TR: ...It teaches you to be independent... (18:40)

CW: ...Independent, how to deal with your problems. I guess

It brought on more problems. I got anxiety issues, (laughs) I got depression issues, but fuck dude you know it was good for while it lasted. Like what I needed at the time. It's definitely fine. It got me healthy, sorta. (18:45)

TR: on some aspects. (19:18)

CW: (laughs) Except for all my addictions, I may drink a little too much (19:20)

TR: Like the navy? (19:27)

CW: Right! You guys got fleet week and shit... (19:30)

TR: So our ship was so shitty. The base in San Diego has a counter for in front of the base was like we've gone like 14 days is the highest gone without a DUI or ARI for the base. I think our ship went like 3 months without one. (19:36)

CW: Where were you? 32nd? (19:57)

TR: Yeah. It's a fuck up. (20:00)

CW: Ugh it's a beautiful place though man. That base. (20:05)

TR: Smells like shit. Alcoholism I think that just goes through all the branches. (20:12)

CW: Yeah, just like I learned don't express your political views on Facebook drunk or even in the military man. I guess you can call me like a liberal, I guess. (20:27)

TR: So you are like talking about the whole social media thing. (20:37)

CW: Yeah (20:38)

TR: Like when I was in Ohio, we didn't have internet I pretty much got away from Social Media I don't use Facebook. I have Instagram though. The whole news thing I don't really I don't watch a whole lot of news because it's a lot of bullshit to me. I read a lot more when it comes up. (20:58)

CW: Yes, I like to read, especially the news it's much better. You know people can sway your ideas through literature right, the writing. But you also have the option to mold it into your own way of thinking you know if you reading like the non-parts in... the BBC or you know something that's not like FOX or CNN. You can infer it into your own way. And that's what literacy or literature gives you the option to do so. (21:33)

TR: What would you say some of the consequences of messing up in the army are? (21:42)

CW: UCMJ, or consequences be loss of pay, loss of rank. But the thing is depending on what you do right, it's not going to harm you right. But coming to school man if you mess up you can

fail a class or do what I do and just dropout at the time right but you know unless you in the military it's kinda like a slap on the wrist right. You get "extra duty" or "night CQ" or "staff duty" it's a 24 hour shift. In school it's more like a real life situation but I guess in theory you don't pass then your fucked right. It could cost you or your buddies' life. School its a little bit harder man. When it comes to education it's very overwhelming to me, I have a lot of nervous breakdowns or I get sick, the stress, like civilian life is more stressful you know. Like I got sick I had gotten the shingles at age 21. Dude you know what the shingles are right chicken pox for like adults. They fucking suck man. Going to pick up my prescription they prescribe you Valtrex, I'm guessing none of you guys have herpes right? It's the same stuff they prescribe people who have herpes so like to repress an outbreak. And I didn't know that was for herpes. I go to pick up my prescription and I, you can step over to the side for a consultation and I'm 21 and young I pick it up at the pharmacy and walk in the side room for the consultation and I hand it to the gentlemen. I just wanna know how to take this I don't want to mess up I know it's important. Let me see what you got. He looks at me like. So is this gonna be for life? Is it going to go away? Oh man. (Laughter) and I was like it's painful. It basically says you're going to take it twice a day. Water and stay hydrated and it should help you out there. So, I was googling I am pretty young to get this. What do you got? And I was like I got the shingles. He said it comes and goes. So basically, it's fucking herpes for your body. Yeah that was due to stress from the 1st day of Mira Costa that was my first semester I was so stressed it caused me to get sick... (25:14)

(Room laughter)

TR: What are your thoughts after active duty since you're still in? (25:30)

CW: My thoughts after, definitely an eye opener you know basically going in as a child I noticed, I look at pictures how young you are. Like how different, baby faced you go in you just see progression like your fucking body deteriorating. I'm like I can still outrun people. Looking back it's different... What was the question? (26:12)

TR: Your thoughts of the army after action (26:15)

CW: It's different man basically not having someone tell you where you need to be, what to do, not having super vision, having to make your own decisions right because you can procrastinate with school and no matter how many google reminders you set you can still fucking ignore it. You know if you put off that paper you know you're not going to get a good grade. But there is no option of putting off something in the military like motor pool Monday's, all the vehicles are PNCS, check all of them check the oil make sure there are no leaks, exhaust samples, getting the blinker fluid, all that good shit. So you know there is a time frame and know what time you're going to lunch. You get an hour for lunch and drink you're 1 beer you can have on duty. But now you make your own decisions and choices and knowing there may not be repercussions but problems and knowing what to do. There is basically always someone, in the military you have that thought in your head that someone's going to come fuck you up if you don't do something. Now you don't you're going to fuck yourself up. Motivate yourself to do what you gotta do. (28:03)

TR: What was your perception of college before attending? (28:11)

CW: I thought it was going to be easier. People are like going to school now? Yeah I go to school. Where you go? I go to Mira Costa. Oh fucking junior college right. Mira Costa should be easy. Yeah maybe easy for some. But I'm over here and I am struggling. Because I have the way I am the way it's ingrained in my brain how to do things is a little bit different it really is. I was trying to explain it to you guys last time how the military they tell you to do "short and sweet" right. You write shorthand, you keep shift notes for the next person to come on duty, you basically keep a log and it's always short. I always get pissed when someone writes a lot of shit so I kept everything simple. You got these professors here that tell you to write a 4 to 6 page essay and you do not know the pressure I feel having to sit at a computer and write. You see me try to get words to appear on the screen. I guess I don't know proper English either cause I can't put fuck in every other word. So when I go to write a paper and it's supposed to be 3 to 9 pages I

have everything I need on 1 fucking page that's everything I have in my brain so I have to go to the writing center and they have to help me basically add information and elaborate how the sky looks. I say the skies fucking blue. Nah how is the sky blue? The sky is picturesque blue painting with jet streams. And I'm like nah the sky's blue it's just really hard to explain. (30:27)

TR: What is literacy like for you compared to the army? Like your reading and writing? You were saying it's shorthanded. (30:38)

CW: Yeah I'm getting better having taken multiple classes now. History classes and earth science or whatever. I've gotten better. I have actually come to accept I just need to put a little bit more time and effort into my work. I'm a lot slower at learning than other people, maybe it's like teaching an old dog new tricks. I've noticed and learned to work with it deal with my problems that I have basically putting more effort and know that it's not going to come easy there is no one that's going to be there like mentor you cause you always have you had a chain of command beforehand whenever I had problems id go to the staff sergeant or my squad leader basically there was always someone there that would answer my question and now I actually have to go and get help... (31:48)

TR:...there is more than one person in several buildings... (31:53)

CW: Exactly, now if I have problems I could talk to you guys, you being a Veteran, or you being a friend I met at school, or someone I have had in class before and it's basically using that networking on the outside. There is always going to be someone there even though I may be nervous or embarrassed to go ask for help. Always a stigma of fucking pussy right. You can't figure it out yourself. (32:22)

TR: pride (32:27)

CW: basically. I got rid of that a long time ago (32:31)

32:35

TR: when did you decide you wanted to come to college, was that back when you were in active? (32:42)

CW: I always knew that I wanted to go to school. (32:48)

TR: other than the military teaching you to go back to school when did you really know you were ready? (33:00)

CW: I never was really ready it was just something I knew, I saw on social media all these people that you went to school with and they have kids and a degree. (32:20)

TR: my sister is in the air force and already is going to have her masters in psychology and she is three years younger than me. She's done five years in the air force and already going to have her masters and a kid. (33:40)

CW: see that's how my brother is. Hes got two kids and went from being field artillery to going to the IT field, he makes a lot of money. But he was also one of those guys who could smoke a lot of pot in high school and accelerated in everything. Me if I smoked a little I'd be paranoid for hours and not even go to school. I saw how other people were doing thing and thought maybe I could do them but it doesn't come easy to me. Seeing other people going to college and seeking their kids made me want to do that. Basically it wasn't that easy for me. I knew that I was behind a lot of people and I still do know that I'm behind a lot of people like around here in miracosta dood like I'll be sitting in a class and I'm failing because I need to participate. Well for me to participate I need to break through my anxiety of first of all being around a lot of people and then going above and beyond to even be called upon. I see all these young people and they sound so smart maybe it's just that I think little of myself and they'll just say stuff that you think is so

intelligent and I feel stupid. They're like look at this guy, this veteran over here with his boot ass haircut and make me col but that's not who I am. I'm not like these other guys walking around all fucken woohoo hurrah you know. I just feel stupid and I am so much older than them. There's this one person who I am so much older than him I'm am seven years older than them and it was weird to think about the age you know. I was like what the fuck that I'm at the same level of education as you know/ but then I thought maybe I'm just beating myself up I don't know. (36:13)

TR: comparing myself to that, I don't know if u guys remember the first day in Strona class when we were talking about literacy and asked me to go up and write literacy on the board, I was like I have no idea, and then I turned around and he was asking everyone what it was and it was reading and writing. I had some shit written down but then I don't know talking in front of everyone or even getting up and writing I just instantly forgot. Seeing other people who were straight out of high school or a few years off of high school and me being out of school for 8 years you just forget it because you don't really use it in a military setting. (37:13)

CW: we basically speak our own way write our own way and basically have our own way of life and way of communicating and just push everything else to the side. Me when I go to class they tell me to solve for X and I'm like what the fuck is X. Basically like geometry I remember you learning that in elementary school. It is different and the anxiety is what I think is the big kicker. Its debilitating and I guess I still haven't yet to go get proper help for it and I know anxiety brings on depression and it sucks. (38:35)

TR: what are your plans after college? (38:40)

CW: I'd like to become a teacher man instead of being here at miracosta. And elementary school teacher. (38:57)

TR: you haven't talked about anything else starting off? (39:00)

CW: you know what I have maybe going to pcm or something I don't know. (39:10)

TR: going back to that teacher thing I had a teacher who was an army officer and had tattoos and shit. And he was more laid back and understanding then if he as teaching younger kids. He was a sociology teacher. (39:40)

CW: I thought about maybe you know just (39:47)

TR: you know by that time kids already have their own fucken perception of what life is already going to be like and harder to teach them. (39:54)

CW: my original thing was going to be a high school teacher but then you see all these teens beating up the high school teachers and I'm like ya no not today. But then I've also thought about going officer and that's the hardest thing. Still don't know what I want to do with my life. (40:19)

TR: that's not a bad thing I'm kind of in the same situation. (40:24)

CW: and that causes more anxieties because everyone else already knows what they want to do or at least that's what my mind tells me everyone else figured it out except for me and it's a killer man. I've taken personality quizzes like what I want to do and one of them aid because I like going outdoors that I should be a cabinet maker. There is no damn way... (40:56)

TR: I feel like we've taken the same one cause I got one of those two. (41:00)

CW there's no damn way I am going to be a carpenter. Why? Because I like trees. (41:06)

TR: I think it's more about the aspects of being outdoors and having a hands on kind of thing. Because I have taken a sort of thing like that to. (41:22)

CW: I have tried to make connections to why I can't make a decision or don't know what to do. Because I've been stuck for so many years doing the same job. Do I really want to do that for the major career and be stuck doing the one job, because I hate communications I hate setting up antennas I don't want to talk on another radio (42:08)

TR: I believe that's better than having a job that doesn't transition out of the military. My job does not. I just recently figured out, I was talking to brad from class, this guy worked with UAVs, he did electronics during the marines and he was telling me how Fallbrook offers, they love ordinance people and he said they take ordinance over anyone so I think I might go that way. (42:41)

CW: that's a big thing I do because those UAV operators we use them as retrans, we shoot signals to those little fucker things up there and somehow it makes it down to another radio (43:00)

TR: I didn't qualify when I was in the Air Force for security which I did, in the navy I didn't qualify for my ordinance job which I did in the Air Force. It's not that I had a high asvab it's just that I was on a refueling base and they didn't have the ordinance anyways but to not qualify for your own job is ridiculous (43:26)

CW: I just FUCKEN blowed on that asvab and it puts you into a job that you don't even want to be doing. I mean I got truck driver, cook, and communications. I mean where the fuck did communications come from. The GT score. (44:45)

TR: I guess I scored pretty high except a nuke submarine job so I picked, I was gonna be an aviation mechanic, but they were like with ordinance your gonna work with aviation mechanics and I was like cool so they talked me out of doing mechanics which I wanted to do and I don't regret it as much it's just too much labor (45:16)

CW: I guess to submit up man I don't regret doing it, it made me a better person and got to do his cool stuff and gave me education opportunity. As long as I pass my classes and don't take it from them. It won't be for life it feels like it is but I just don't see the light at the end of the tunnel I guess. (45:52)

TR: the aspect of not being, like u don't know what's to come, there's no steady pay, you don't know what's coming next and college is just a whole new different adjustment there's no real answers and you have to find your answers (46:17)

CW: if I were to tell any other vet it would be don't be scared to get the help, even though I should take my own advice, don't be scared there's a lot of stuff out there for veterans just fight the stigmas (46:34)

TR: for that I think it's pride, I've been on my own for a long time, I have a lot of pride and asking someone for help is really hard for me. (47:01)

CW: I don't want to ask someone who doesn't know, someone who doesn't know what I'm going through. To ask someone who's not a veteran you know. When you go over here to the veterans' center, most of them are not veterans I do not get the feeling. (47:28)

TR: I know that there are three of them that go over there a lot but they're the people who help me out at the other office over here so that's where I know them from (47: 43)

CW: I tried going over there but there's never anybody there so I have to go the other counter (48:05)

TR: well ya that's where I know them from their, over the summer they were helping me out and I'm I think that's the end of the interview (48:22)

NEW REVISION OF THE TRANSCRIPTION

**Interview Transcript**

Interviewee: Cody Ward

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Interviewer's: Tom Rodenhaver, Juan Rivera, Enrique Rodriguez

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October 24, 2016

Miracosta Library

Tom Rodenhaver: Who are you? (00:02)

Cody Ward: I am Cody Ward. (00:03)

TR: Did you enlist while in high school? (00:05)

CW: No couple of months after I graduate high school in June 2011 and I raised my hand into the Army in October 13, of went to boot camp on the 25th. (00:10)

TR: What was your perception of the military before joining? (00:33)

CW: I didn't really know much about it my brother enlisted in the army in 03 and served invasion of Iraq and he came back he didn't really talk about it much, I didn't know where to go or what to do so I just joined in knowing nothing about it. (00:36)

TR: What was your motivation to why you enlisted? (01:08)

CW: I don't know I just wanted to get away when I got out of high school I was already living on my own at the age of 17 with my girlfriend and I needed to do something I needed a job and I didn't know what I wanted to do, I thought about going to school but I didn't know much about it not much guidance and yeah that's the best thing. (01:11)

TR: What was your literacy like before the military? (01:43)

CW: I was a literary I didn't know a damn thing, it's not a bad thing I graduated from a continuation high school from Ocean Shores and basically got the boot from the regular high

school and decide to do something and it was basically wanting us to graduate and keep us out of the streets so I graduate high school and continue Army. (01:47)

TR: Were there any major decisions you had to make before enlisting? (02:22)

CW: To be honest, I don't remember really much I put parts at lowest and one summer I wash boats it suck and that's when I had to change. (02:30)

TR: People do that in the Navy? (02:55)

CW: Yeah they get paid a lot better too. (02:58)

TR: How was it for you to transition into the military? (03:08)

CW: My brother told me not to join and I went and did it anyways, I had no clue what it will be about and you will see what it was in Television in the times how Libya went through a revolution when I joined you saw what was going on T.V but I didn't go to entry. Going in was a little eradicating but it was good I needed it in my life I need directions if you think about it in boot camp it basically teaches you how to clean yourself they teach you everything, I didn't know how to do a bed so a lot of does guys didn't know how to shave their basically raising this people in a short amount of time 3 months. (03:15)

TR: Was the army the first choice? (04:28)

CW: I was a little feather I was 127 pounds first choice was the Navy recruiter and when in there and there was no one in there, they ask him a little about himself how do you have experience of college or anything and I told him I went to this high school and just graduate and I want to join the Navy and said oh really what high school I have a diploma but it's so from upon to graduate from regular high school I think it was (Bullshit) to talk to a pride Navy, later on he told him to get college credit this is bullshit they are discriminating you he said everyone wants to join the Navy to go see the world. Next I went to the air force they brought out the chart the height and weight and all that and asking him for his weight and told him you're underweight like about a pound dude I could not gain weight for the life of me I try and try. Alright I just go to the Army I enlisted in the army and from there I went to do my basic training went to my MOS school I got station for Arizona finish right there and went back home. Join the guard transition right in and now here I am in MiraCosta. (04:56)

TR: What was/is your MOS while you were in? (07:21)

CW: I was a 25 cord back still am I'm stuck with the MOS it going to face out 3 year sum lancer radio guy basically and RTO all the stuff I use in the MOS is has been face out they digital everything and secure. It a radio truck set out an antenna 30 feet high and try to do lots of math and I'm not really good at it and now they have satellites. Been stuck with strikes teams. (07:22)

TR: Is this here in the states or no? (08:55)

CW: Yes here in the state I'm what you call a Pogs went overseas. I've down three overseas. And I was ready to go to Afghanistan I did 3 months in training up north actually in camp Robert. I was deployed said by to my family then they said NO, I was one of the ones that went to pick them up overseas. (08:57)

TR: What was your literacy like while in the army? (09:36)

CW: I actually learned a lot even though all we read is as a six grade level I had lots of boring times pick up a book and start reading them to pass time. I found out what type of person I was going other places or states when I join I was pretty ignorant towards a lot of cultures and people it was like in Oceanside people act the same way like the rest but going south, west you learn how to communicate different and pick up different values experience of you. (09:42)

TR: So you're Oceanside Natives? (10:47)

CW: I am, well born and raised in California natives. (10:51)

TR: And I agree with you what you mean I was born in Texas moved to Kentucky because my grandpa was in the army and closer to Fortnox, live close from their and same thing you were saying you pick up with the people and just get stuck with that and then from that I went to great lakes for boot camp from there I went to Florida were at in Florida, Pensacola and then from Florida I came here San Diego for five years and yeah. (11:02)

CW: Pick up bad habits started chewing and still addicted for caffeine I will have 3 red bulls a day. (11:46)

TR: What was the communication like in the army? How? Where? (12:26)

CW: Think about a different lingo I guess I started cursing words. In my communication you could stay in contact with them it more like a brotherhood you could randomly pick up from where you left off right call a friend and meet up with them everywhere if you go in a vacation

you meet new people. Different lingo like in a job you want to be properly correct and in the military you could say anything you want to each other. (12:33)

TR: Did your literacy interest change during your service? (14:53)

CW: Yes, I just can't stay out with Wikipedia. I actually don't watch TV I'm really caught up with social media I like reading the news, I like to read PBS and different news. I even have kindle unlimited I even found a passion for reading and a different life. Economics issues he likes and one day hope I want to be a teacher. Impact the youth because is really important. (14:57)

TR: What types of reading you read or focus on? (16:04)

CW: I obviously history reading even different of novels or anything that is real I like to read. (16:09)

TR: And you say you didn't deploy? (16:38)

CW: I've done more things with the guards got to go to more fun places force fire and travel around the states. (16:43)

TR: How are does jobs compare to your others jobs? (17:05)

CW: It way more fun in active duty and you don't know your active duty into you move with them it's like saying you don't know your girlfriend well into you moved in with her. You have a chance to get out of there. In California they all have their own job and struggle so that was way more fun and talk about the racist. (17:08)

18:15

TR: What's the most positive thing you can take away from the Army? (18:16)

CW: The most positive thing, definitely makes you grow up cause I don't know what I would have done without it I don't know what you would say I'd probably... (18:22)

TR: ...It teaches you to be independent... (18:40)

CW: ...Independent, how to deal with your problems. I guess

It brought on more problems. I got anxiety issues, (laughs) I got depression issues, but fuck dude you know it was good for while it lasted. Like what I needed at the time. It's definitely fine. It got me healthy, sort of. (18:45)

TR: On some aspects. (19:18)

CW: (laughs) Except for all my addictions, I may drink a little too much (19:20)

TR: Like the navy? (19:27)

CW: Right! You guys got fleet week and shit... (19:30)

TR: So our ship was so shitty. The base in San Diego has a counter for in front of the base was like we've gone like 14 days is the highest gone without a DUI or ARI for the base. I think our ship went like 3 months without one. (19:36)

CW: Where were you? 32nd? (19:57)

TR: Yeah. It's a fuck up. (20:00)

CW: Ugh it's a beautiful place though man. That base. (20:05)

TR: Smells like shit. Alcoholism I think that just goes through all the branches. (20:12)

CW: Yeah, just like I learned don't express your political views on Facebook drunk or even in the military man. I guess you can call me like a liberal, I guess. (20:27)

TR: So you are like talking about the whole Social Media thing. (20:37)

CW: Yeah (20:38)

TR: Like when I was in Ohio, we didn't have internet I pretty much got away from Social Media I don't use Facebook. I have Instagram though. The whole news thing I don't really I don't watch a whole lot of news because it's a lot of bullshit to me. I read a lot more when it comes up. (20:58)

CW: Yes, I like to read, especially the news it's much better. You know people can sway your ideas through literature right, the writing. But you also have the option to mold it into your own way of thinking you know if you reading like the non-parts in... the BBC or you know something that's not like FOX or CNN. You can infer it into your own way. And that's what literacy or literature gives you the option to do so. (21:33)

TR: What would you say some of the consequences of messing up in the army are? (21:42)

CW: UCMJ, or consequences be loss of pay, loss of rank. But the thing is depending on what you do right, it's not going to harm you right. But coming to school man if you mess up you can fail a class or do what I do and just dropout at the time right but you know unless you are in the military it's kind of like a slap on the wrist right. You get "extra duty" or "night CQ" or "staff duty" it's a 24 hour shift. In school it's more like a real life situation but I guess in theory you don't pass then your fucked right. It could cost you or your buddy's life. School it's a little bit

harder man. When it comes to education it's very overwhelming to me, I have a lot of nervous breakdowns or I get sick, the stress, like civilian life is more stressful you know. Like I got sick I had gotten the shingles at age 21. Dude you know what the shingles are right chicken pox for like adults. They fucking suck man. Going to pick up my prescription they prescribe you Valtrex, I'm guessing none of you guys have herpes right? It's the same stuff they prescribe people who have herpes so like to repress an outbreak. And I didn't know that was for herpes. I go to pick up my prescription and I, you can step over to the side for a consultation and I'm 21 and young I pick it up at the pharmacy and walk in the side room for the consultation and I hand it to the gentlemen. I just want to know how to take this I don't want to mess up I know it's important. Let me see what you got. He looks at me like. So is this going to be for life? Is it going to go away? Oh man. (Laughter) and I was like it's painful. It basically says you're going to take it twice a day. Water and stay hydrated and it should help you out there. So, I was googling I am pretty young to get this. What do you got? And I was like I got the shingles. He said it comes and goes. So basically, it's fucking herpes for your body. Yeah that was due to stress from the 1st day of MiraCosta that was my first semester I was so stressed it caused me to get sick... (25:14)

(Room laughter)

TR: What are your thoughts after active duty since you're still in? (25:30)

CW: My thoughts after, definitely an eye opener you know basically going in as a child I noticed, I look at pictures how young you are. Like how different, baby faced you go in you just see progression like your fucking body deteriorating. I'm like I can still outrun people. Looking back it's different... What was the question? (26:12)

TR: Your thoughts of the army after action (26:15)

CW: It's different man basically not having someone tell you where you need to be, what to do, not having super vision, having to make your own decisions right because you can procrastinate with school and no matter how many google reminders you set you can still fucking ignore it. You know if you put off that paper you know you're not going to get a good grade. But there is no option of putting off something in the military like motor pool Monday's, all the vehicles are PNCS, check all of them check the oil make sure there are no leaks, exhaust samples, getting the blinker fluid, all that good shit. So you know there is a time frame and know what time you're

going to lunch. You get an hour for lunch and drink you're one beer you can have on duty. But now you make your own decisions and choices and knowing there may not be repercussions but problems and knowing what to do. There is basically always someone, in the military you have that thought in your head that someone's going to come fuck you up if you don't do something. Now you don't you're going to fuck yourself up. Motivate yourself to do what you got to do. (28:03)

TR: What was your perception of college before attending? (28:11)

CW: I thought it was going to be easier. People are like going to school now? Yeah I go to school. Where you go? I go to MiraCosta. Oh fucking junior college right. MiraCosta should be easy. Yeah maybe easy for some. But I'm over here and I am struggling. Because I have the way I am the way it's ingrained in my brain how to do things is a little bit different it really is. I was trying to explain it to you guys last time how the military they tell you to do "Short and Sweet" right. You write shorthand, you keep shift notes for the next person to come on duty, you basically keep a log and it's always short. I always get pissed when someone writes a lot of shit so I kept everything simple. You got these professors here that tell you to write a 4 to 6 page essay and you do not know the pressure I feel having to sit at a computer and write. You see me try to get words to appear on the screen. I guess I don't know proper English either because I can't put fuck in every other word. So when I go to write a paper and it's supposed to be 3 to 9 pages I have everything I need on 1 fucking page that's everything I have in my brain so I have to go to the writing center and they have to help me basically add information and elaborate how the sky looks. I say the skies fucking blue. Nah how is the sky blue? The sky is picturesque blue painting with jet streams. And I'm like nah the sky's blue it's just really hard to explain. (30:27)

TR: What is literacy like for you compared to the Army? Like your reading and writing? You were saying it's shorthanded. (30:38)

CW: Yeah I'm getting better having taken multiple classes now. History classes and earth science or whatever. I've gotten better. I have actually come to accept I just need to put a little bit more time and effort into my work. I'm a lot slower at learning than other people, maybe it's like teaching an old dog new tricks. I've noticed and learned to work with it deal with my problems that I have basically putting more effort and know that it's not going to come easy there is no one

that's going to be there like mentor you cause you always have you had a chain of command beforehand whenever I had problems I'd go to the staff sergeant or my squad leader basically there was always someone there that would answer my question and now I actually have to go and get help... (31:48)

TR: There is more than one person in several buildings... (31:53)

CW: Exactly, now if I have problems I could talk to you guys, you being a Veteran, or you being a friend I met at school, or someone I have had in class before and it's basically using that networking on the outside. There is always going to be someone there even though I may be nervous or embarrassed to go ask for help. Always a stigma of being a pussy right. You can't figure it out yourself. (32:22)

TR: Pride (32:27)

CW: Basically, I got rid of that a long time ago. (32:31)

32:35

TR: When did you decide you wanted to come to college, was that back when you were in active? (32:42)

CW: I always knew that I wanted to go to school. (32:48)

TR: Other than the military teaching you to go back to school when did you really know you were ready? (33:00)

CW: I never was really ready it was just something I knew, I saw on social media all these people that you went to school with and they have kids and a degree. (32:20)

TR: My sister is in the Air-Force and already is going to have her masters in psychology and she is three years younger than me. She's done five years in the air force and already going to have her masters and a kid. (33:40)

CW: See that's how my brother is. He's got two kids and went from being field artillery to going to the IT field, he makes a lot of money. But he was also one of those guys who could smoke a lot of pot in high school and accelerated in everything. Me if I smoked a little I'd be paranoid for hours and not even go to school. I saw how other people were doing thing and thought maybe I could do them but it doesn't come easy to me. Seeing other people going to college and seeking their kids made me want to do that. Basically it wasn't that easy for me. I knew that I was behind

a lot of people and I still do know that I'm behind a lot of people like around here in MiraCosta dood like I'll be sitting in a class and I'm failing because I need to participate. Well for me to participate I need to break through my anxiety of first of all being around a lot of people and then going above and beyond to even be called upon. I see all these young people and they sound so smart maybe it's just that I think little of myself and they'll just say stuff that you think is so intelligent and I feel stupid. They're like look at this guy, this veteran over here with his boot ass haircut and make me col but that's not who I am. I'm not like these other guys walking around all fucken Woohoo human you know. I just feel stupid and I am so much older than them. There's this one person who I am so much older than him I am seven years older than them and it was weird to think about the age you know. I was like what the fuck that I'm at the same level of education as you know/ but then I thought maybe I'm just beating myself up I don't know. (36:13)

TR: Comparing myself to that, I don't know if u guys remember the first day in Strona class when we were talking about literacy and asked me to go up and write literacy on the board, I was like I have no idea, and then I turned around and he was asking everyone what it was and it was reading and writing. I had some shit written down but then I don't know talking in front of everyone or even getting up and writing I just instantly forgot. Seeing other people who were straight out of high school or a few years off of high school and me being out of school for eight years you just forget it because you don't really use it in a military setting. (37:13)

CW: We basically speak our own way write our own way and basically have our own way of life and way of communicating and just push everything else to the side. Me when I go to class they tell me to solve for X and I'm like what the fuck is X. Basically, like geometry I remember you learning that in elementary school. It is different and the anxiety is what I think is the big kicker. Its debilitating and I guess I still haven't yet to go get proper help for it and I know anxiety brings on depression and it sucks. (38:35)

TR: What are your plans after college? (38:40)

CW: I'd like to become a teacher man instead of being here at MiraCosta. And Elementary school teacher. (38:57)

TR: You haven't talked about anything else starting off? (39:00)

CW: You know what I have maybe gone to PCM or something I don't know. (39:10)

TR: going back to that teacher thing I had a teacher who was an army officer and had tattoos and shit. And he was more laid back and understanding then if he as teaching younger kids. He was a sociology teacher. (39:40)

CW: I thought about maybe you know just. (39:47)

TR: You know by that time kids already have their own fucken perception of what life is already going to be like and harder to teach them. (39:54)

CW: My original thing was going to be a high school teacher but then you see all these teens beating up the high school teachers and I'm like yeah no not today. But then I've also thought about going officer and that's the hardest thing. Still don't know what I want to do with my life. (40:19)

TR: That's not a bad thing I'm kind of in the same situation. (40:24)

CW: And that causes more anxieties because everyone else already knows what they want to do or at least that's what my mind tells me everyone else figured it out except for me and it's a killer man. I've taken personality quizzes like what do, I want to do and one of them aid because I like going outdoors that I should be a cabinet maker. There is no damn way... (40:56)

TR: I feel like we've taken the same one cause I got one of those two. (41:00)

CW there's no damn way I am going to be a carpenter. Why? Because I like trees. (41:06)

TR: I think it's more about the aspects of being outdoors and having a hands on kind of thing. Because I have taken a sort of thing like that to. (41:22)

CW: I have tried to make connections to why I can't make a decision or don't know what to do. Because I've been stuck for so many years doing the same job. Do I really want to do that for the major career and be stuck doing the one job, because I hate communications I hate setting up antennas I don't want to talk on another radio. (42:08)

TR: I believe, that's better than having a job that doesn't transition out of the military. My job does not. I just recently figured out, I was talking to brad from class, this guy worked with UAVs, he did electronics during the Marines and he was telling me how Fallbrook offers, they love ordinance people and he said they take ordinance over anyone so, I think I might go that way. (42:41)

CW: That's a big thing I do because those UAV operators we use them as retrainers, we shoot signals to those little fucker things up there and somehow it makes it down to another radio. (43:00)

TR: I didn't qualify when I was in the Air Force for security which I did, in the navy I didn't qualify for my ordinance job which I did in the Air Force. It's not that I had a high asvab it's just that I was on a refueling base and they didn't have the ordinance anyways but to not qualify for your own job is ridiculous. (43:26)

CW: I just FUCKEN blow on that asvab and it puts you into a job that you don't even want to be doing. I mean I got truck driver, cook, and communications. I mean where the fuck did communications come from. The GT score. (44:45)

TR: I guess I scored pretty high except a nuke submarine job so I picked, I was going to be an aviation mechanic, but they were like with ordinance you're going to work with aviation mechanics and I was like cool so they talked me out of doing mechanics which I wanted to do and I don't regret it as much it's just too much labor. (45:16)

CW: I guess to submit up man I don't regret doing it, it made me a better person and got to do his cool stuff and gave me education opportunity. As long as I pass my classes and don't take it from them. It won't be for life it feels like it is but I just don't see the light at the end of the tunnel I guess. (45:52)

TR: The aspect of not being, like u don't know what's to come, there's no steady pay, you don't know what's coming next and college is just a whole new different adjustment there's no real answers and you have to find your answers. (46:17)

CW: If I were to tell any other vet it would be don't be scared to get the help, even though I should take my own advice, don't be scared there's a lot of stuff out there for veterans just fight the stigmas. (46:34)

TR: For that I think it's pride, I've been on my own for a long time, I have a lot of pride and asking someone for help is really hard for me. (47:01)

CW: I don't want to ask someone who doesn't know, someone who doesn't know what I'm going through. To ask someone who's not a veteran you know. When you go over here to the veteran's center, most of them are not veterans I do not get the feeling. (47:28)

TR: I know that there are three of them that go over there a lot but they're the people who help me out at the other office over here so that's where I know them from. (47: 43)

CW: I tried going over there but there's never anybody there so I have to go the other counter. (48:05)

TR: Well aye that's where I know them from their, over the summer they were helping me out and I'm I think that's the end of the interview. (48:22)

## **Script for audio**

### **Intro**

Introduce J.E.T.

(Narrator) Enrique

(This is our information from the 1st interview with cody)

Date and time (1st interview)

Place (1st interview)

Introduce: Cody

Cody is talking about him wanting to be a teacher (38:57)

Narrator ( Enrique)

Talks about background on Cody

### **Transition**

interview:

Cody talks about his literacy now in college and what classes he's taking and how he is doing in college

The narrator will be Tom when he ask the questions

Enrique:

Cody attends MiraCosta College

He has been attending for over **something years**

He has been studying to one day become a history teacher to either teach middle school or elementary school students.

### **Transition**

interview:

Then Tom will ask him about his literacy during the military

“Short and Sweet” Explain?

Narrator (Enrique)

Because of his military training Cody began to write “Short and Sweet”

He started to write to the point and being very clear and concise about what he writes not giving much detail but getting straight to the point.

This writing style has affected cody because in college you must be descriptive and can not write short sentences that are clear and straight to the point.

cody:

“I hate when people leave long notes”

MOS

Enrique:

Cody Ward is a sergeant in the U.S. Army who is still serving in the reserves.

Cody learning and training in Army

- . Narrate and Explain

- . Cody learning and teaching at MCC

(Narrator Enrique)

Difficult and transition

- . Cause stress Shingles

- . Learn to learn

(Narrator Enrique)

Army

- . Perservation

- . Discipline

- . Out

- . Adaption

# New script

## Intro

Hello my name is tom **rodenhaver?** And along side me today is enrique