Rachel Clift

Mr. Morris, 2nd Period

English Foundation

16 September 2015

Dr. Samuel Cheshier

Everyone deserves someone that they can look up to, that they can call a role model, and a friend. Everyone deserves that special person that they know they can come to in times of trouble and pain. That person for me is Dr. Samuel Cheshier. I have known Dr. Cheshier for about a year and a half now, and in just that short amount of time, he has made some amazing changes in my life, all positive, and all of which I'm more than thankful for.

Dr. Samuel Cheshier has been a big part of my life since early 2014. He wears glasses, has short dark hair, and is often smiling. He is confident, kind, reassuring, educated, intelligent, and trustworthy. I know Dr. Cheshier because he is my brain surgeon. He is a neurosurgeon at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, is an assistant professor of Neurosurgery at Stanford University, and attended Stanford University himself. He gave me feelings of positivity and optimism from the very beginning.

I still remember the feeling I got the first day that I met him. I was so nervous in a hospital I didn't know well yet, I was scared about my still undiagnosed condition at that point, and he gave me the most positive boost of energy. Back then he made me smile and feel like everything would be okay, and he continues to do that every time I see him. He is extremely confident, and he truthfully told me many times that everything would be better in the end, and

all of my medical issues were fixable. This was true. He proved that, by giving me a perfect brain surgery, he could completely fix my problem.

December 10, 2014 was the day that I got brain surgery to remove a tumor in the right side of my brain causing epilepsy. I went into surgery feeling really optimistic, positive, and confident that I would not only be okay, but that I would be better. I felt this way because I trusted and believed Dr. Cheshier when he told me that surgery would help and that it would all be okay. He was right about both things. I wasn't nervous going into surgery because of the way he reassured me, but I was scared and quite anxious right afterwards because I didn't understand what had just happened and where I was.

I still remember parts of seeing Dr. Cheshier just post surgery. He came into the room I was in, smiling, and talked to me some. I unfortunately can't remember exactly what he said to me, but I do remember him being positive and sweet and caring like he always is, and making me feel better. I also remember him telling me about how the surgery had gone perfectly. He believed I was cured.

The seizures are now in my past. Even though epilepsy was an extremely difficult and scary part of my life, it's what brought me to meet the person that I could look up to and appreciate for many reasons. That person is Dr. Samuel Cheshier, a close personal friend and an incredible role model for me. I hope that someday I can find a way to thank him enough for all that he has done for me. Thanks to him, I am now over nine months seizure-free. I look forward to seeing him again soon.