

A need for learning

Ethan Locke is a rising writer who just graduated with a Bachelor degree in creative writing from Full Sail University. His effort in college earned him an invitation into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and a Course Director Award from some of his teachers. He happily agreed to sit down with us when we reached out for an interview. Locke said, “I’m thrilled to be sitting here with you today. I never could have imagined being here when I’m still getting my foot in the door.”



A smile crossed Locke’s lips when we asked him when he knew what he wanted out of his career. He said, “It’s something I discovered as I made my way through school. I know I want to be a novelist one day, but that isn’t sustainable so early in my career, so I chose to become an editor. The assignments I was always eager to do most involved providing feedback on my peers work, so why not turn that into a career.”

We talked a bit more about his career goals before shifting gears and asking him what’s his creative process. He said, “In simple terms, my creative process is just condensing words. I usually just free write and put on paper all the thoughts I have about whatever I’m writing. From there, it’s a matter of finding my core statement and focusing on it.”



A rookie at heart

After our discussion about his creative process, we asked him what’s the hardest lesson he learned as a professional and he shared a unique answer. He said, “The hardest lesson I learned is how to slow down. Everyone always tells you to work hard and never let up, and while you should do that, you can’t forget about the common minor mistakes. Out of all my assignments, overlooking those common mistakes is the one thing that plagued my writing the most.”



As we concluded our interview, we asked Locke if he had one piece of advice we wish he could tell himself as a student. He said, “The only piece of advice is don’t be afraid to admit you don’t know everything. It ties back into our previous conversation about those common mistakes. I often found myself saying there’s no way I could fall for those mistakes again. I’m too good for that now. Even though I never was.”