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Title: Totally Joe

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While reading the chapter D is for Dating in Totally Joe, I made many connections. One example of a text-to-self (T-S) connection happened when Joe is talking about his first phone conversation with Colin. As I read this scene I cringe with embarrassment. The beginning of their conversation is so awkward, with both boys obviously being very nervous. I can vividly remember the butterflies that I felt when calling a boy for the first time. Just getting up the courage to press the numbers on the phone was a huge accomplishment, let alone carrying on a conversation! When Joe and Colin are awkwardly joking, it takes me back to my days in junior high and all of a sudden, I feel 13 again!

My second connection is also a T-S connection. This occurred when Joe and Colin are discussing what Colin’s dad would think if he realized that his son was gay. Joe says that it wouldn’t be as if his dad would hate him and Colin says that he wouldn’t be too sure about that. I feel so badly for Colin in this moment. Although I cannot relate to what it must be like to have to hide my sexuality, I do understand what it is like to have to pretend to be someone you are not. Growing up, I can remember times when I felt like who I was wasn’t good enough for other people and that I had change who I was. I cannot imagine how hard it must be to feel that way about your own parents; the people who are supposed to love you no matter what!

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