The chapter I was assigned is Canada Geese. Green starts off by talking about how these geese used to be rare. Hunters saw them as a commodity and would even use live geese as bait to hunt until live decoys were made illegal. Canada geese have become extremely common today because of laws protecting them and the mass amount of land that is perfect for geese. He mentions that Canada geese and humans seem to have quite a bit in common. Both canada geese and humans mate for life, take up a wide population, and have had a drastic population increase. Like humans, the growth of their species is destroying the habitats that are perfect for them. Their feces causes large amounts of E. Coli and it is corrupting the lakes and ponds that they live near. Humans and geese have a “symbiotic relationship” but neither parties seem to care that much for each other. This is very much like how humans are with other humans. He notes that, while his biggest fear was abandonment, his ex-girlfriend’s was geese. He says that there are always ways around abandonment, but not things like geese.

I believe Green chose to write about this topic because it is a perfect example of how our biggest worries in life are typically things that can be worked around and not random occurrences. I think this helps outline a life of significance by helping readers overcome fears that don’t have to be roadblocks. These fears, like abandonment or failure, can be avoided. And, if it happens, you can always learn from it and ensure that it doesn’t happen again. With something completely out of the blue, like geese wrecking a plane, there is nothing that one person can do to help avoid it. Time should not be spent worrying about avoidable fears and instead on finding ways to avoid them.

I really liked this chapter and thought it was a creative way of delivering the message. I would give this particular essay five stars.