

COVER LETTER

1. Adjective

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Dear Mr. Jordan David LaFlure and Mr. Daniel Davis,

Since moving to Chicago last year, I've focused the skills I learned at the University of Michigan as an acting student with a Creative Non-Fiction minor on stand-up and satire. I started doing stand-up when auditioning for McDonalds commercials and saying "_____ Adjective _____ apples, right kids?" became disheartening. Since beginning stand-up in November of 2017, I have performed at Second City, iO, and Zanies, and have opened for Russ Williamson, Super Human, and Dwayne Kennedy (Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell). I've also had my writing published on the satire site Little Old Lady Comedy. My essay titled, "What To Do When You Find Out Steve Buscemi is Your Gynecologist" is one of the sites most read pieces of the year.

My time as an intern at a wedding planning company taught me how to coordinate schedules, take the initiative to get higher-ups what they need before they realize they need it, and keep people on schedule. That administrative experience has prepared me to coordinate workflow among teams at The Onion and Clickhole. My experience physically managing these weddings taught me to be ready for anything, such as tracking down five extra servings of beef after everyone at Aunt Martha's table saw that she got the beef and the beef looked quite good, and couldn't we make an adjustment just for them? As an intern and copyeditor at Portland Monthly Magazine, I took detailed notes in meetings to keep the various issues we were working on organized, tracking content as it progressed and arranging it into the proper channels. I held interviews with people we were profiling.

I was even asked to write the cover story for an issue because of my thorough note taking and interviewing. My work in the service industry has taught me how to function amiably and efficiently with many different personalities and pick up slack when someone else is in the weeds. And my experience as a woman in this world has conditioned me to do all things with a smile!

Though it was eleven years ago, I still remember the first headline I read from The Onion. I was a middle school theatre nerd with a Facebook, and someone shared, "Unconventional Director Sets Shakespeare Play In Time, Place Shakespeare Intended." I immediately laughed, and immediately felt embarrassed at how close to home it hit. Which is one of my favorite aspects of The Onion and Clickhole; no one reading it can get too self-righteous, because they'll probably get hit next. And when so many news headlines feel like jokes, I want to be a part of an environment whose purpose is to make people laugh.

Best regards,

Jackie Cooper