

In 1987, Kurt Cobain formed the band Nirvana, which represents a transcendent state in which there is no suffering, and the subject is released from the cycle of death and rebirth by Buddhist belief. It represents the final goal.

Now, I've listened to my fair share of Nirvana, especially my freshman year, in that awkward stage between being a kid and a young adult. But today, we all stand here as adults, and every action, every decision, has brought us to this moment.

Through music, we are able to find ourselves, and from that we are able to learn and adapt. Kurt Cobain was unapologetically himself. For this reason, I was inspired by his individuality, and he's given me three pieces of advice, all of which I wish to share with you.

The first one is self-worth. Kurt Cobain said, "Wanting to be someone else is a waste of the person you are." High school can be full of insecurity and jealousy. They become your biggest enemies. You need to focus solely on your own success; do not compare your achievements to others. The second you do, you lose focus of what truly matters to you. Strive for your own goals and make them a reality. If there's something that you do not like, you have two options: deal with it or fix it. When you choose to grow from situations, you become successful. Embrace your inner worth, and be sure to value yourself.

The second piece of advice is to find your own justice. Kurt Cobain once said, "The duty of youth is to challenge corruption." If I can ask you to do anything in life, it is to question everything and to stand up for injustice. Life isn't fair; we've heard this mantra over and over, yet we forget that we have the power to change it. In a world of great divide and hatred, your voice becomes your most powerful weapon. Use it to fight the corruption in the world around you, and do not take the easy path. Stand up for what you believe to be right, even if you are alone. The world needs good people, and all of us can become that, if we choose to.

The last piece of advice I have for you is to make your life uniquely yours. Kurt Cobain said, "It's better to burn out than fade away." In other words, life becomes what you make it. I'm not going to sugarcoat it; some of us will be successful in life, and some of us might not. What defines your fate will be determined by you. You are in charge of your own success. I know with 100% certainty that everyone in this room has the potential to succeed, but it's up to you to make it happen. Live spontaneously, live ambitiously, and find excitement in everything you do. If you refuse to take chances, you don't live life to the fullest. Do what truly makes you happy. Set yourself apart, and find something in life that is uniquely yours.

Kurt Cobain named his band Nirvana because of what it represented to him- a state of no suffering, the subject is released from the cycle, and the final goal is reached. High school has been our cycle, and now it has come to a close. For our entire lives, we've waited for this moment. This is the endgame; this has been the final goal. So Congratulations, class of 2019, we have finally reached Nirvana. We have our whole lives ahead of us; let's make them ours.