

# Identity & Action

Poems from the Present to the Future

Winter 2016-2017

IS 392, K

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## Introduction

On my first day at IS 392, I began by asking students what a poem is. There's more to poetry, we discovered, than just a collection of lines. This anthology holds the past, present, and future of a group of young poets, artists, dreamers, and citizens, and it has been my absolute privilege to work with them and their words. Poetry, we learned, is something different to every poet: while Pablo Neruda once wrote that "poetry is an act of peace," one IS 392 student suggested that instead, poetry is an act of protest. In my time at this school, I have seen poems that are acts of courage, self-reflection, and discovery, acts of imagination and hope.

In our first weeks together, students explored ways of writing about themselves. We read a poem by the Pulitzer prize winning Brooklyn poet Gregory Pardlo, and students responded by writing about their own beginnings: where they were born. Later, I asked students to write about an object of personal significance to them, and to craft those object-portraits into self-portraits. Students described themselves as cell phones, necklaces, even as drumsticks, revealing something of their identity that might only ever be seen in poetry.

Finally, as 2016 came to a close and this group of poets started in on a new year, I asked them to imagine the future. We read a poem called "Beyond the Years," by Paul Lawrence Dunbar, one of the first nationally-recognized black poets, who wrote at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and students responded by writing about the futures that they envision for themselves, their country, and their world. Some chose to write about the year to come, while others wrote their way centuries into the future. As they wrote about the future, they revealed their perceptions of the present too, and showed themselves not only to be talented writers, but also critical, compassionate thinkers, and citizens of a future that we all can look forward to.

I'd like to thank the many teachers and staff members at IS 392 for their collaboration and support throughout this residency: Principal Joseph, Ms. Rance-Fisher, Ms. Tasher, Ms. Jean, Ms. Valentine, Ms. Ordde, Ms. Priester and Ms. McKenzie. Thank you to Leonore Gordon and Myra Kooy, who generously funded this residency. A huge thank you, always, to the staff at the Teachers & Writer's Collaborative, Jordan Dann, Amy Swauger, and Jade Triton. And above all, thank you to the students whose words are contained within these pages. Your poems have changed the way I see the world.

Erika Luckert  
March 2017

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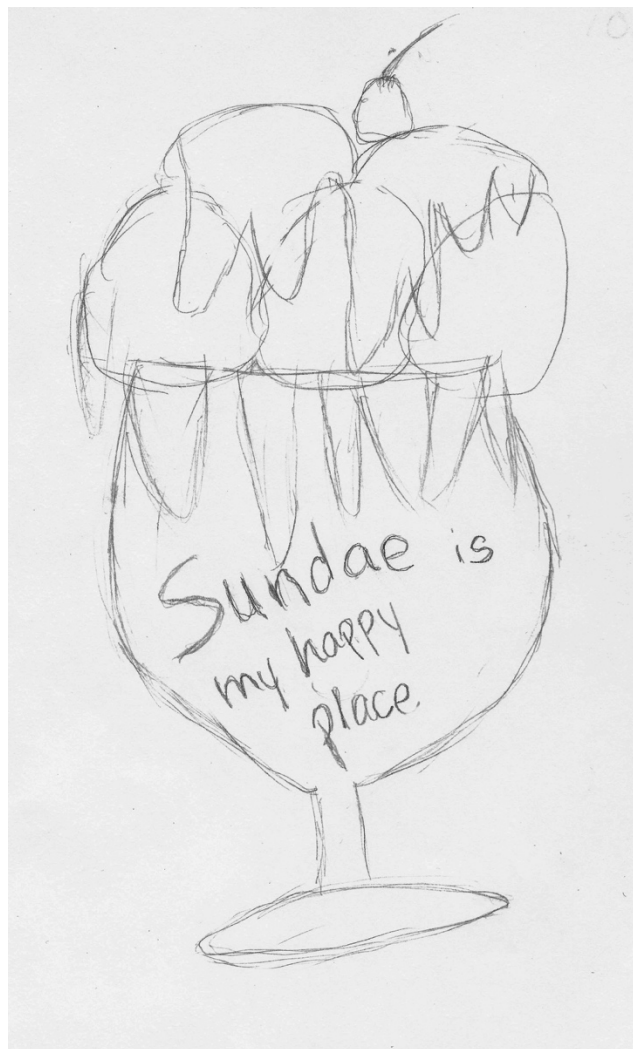
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## Is a Sundae a Poem?

A poem is like having a sundae on a hot summer beach  
It does not matter the flavor whether it's apple strawberry or peach  
It quenches my thirst in the hot summer sun  
Oh! Right now I wish I had one

A poem is like having a sundae in the blazing sun  
It makes me happy while I am having my summer fun  
It gives me a chill in my throat  
It is like a thrill in the summer sun

A poem is like having a sundae any season of the year  
Whether it is winter, spring, summer, or fall  
An amazing poem inspires us all!!!!



### **Poems are seasons**

A poem is as beautiful as the trees in Fall  
Fall is a season that is not very small  
Everyone loves it with the trees in all  
A poem is as beautiful as the trees in Fall

A poem is like the cherry blossoms in Spring  
That's exactly what this season brings  
All of the children like to hear the birds sing  
A poem is like the cherry blossoms in Spring

A poem is as cold as the winter snow  
If you stand outside you will surely know  
Just because the wind will freeze you so  
A poem is as cold as the winter snow

A poem is like a cold drink on a summer day  
It makes you want to cast-a-way  
To a far-away island so we can say  
A poem is like a cold drink on a summer day

A poem is like all the seasons of the world  
Write a poem, give it a whirl  
You will have fun once you learn, that  
A poem is like all the seasons of the world.

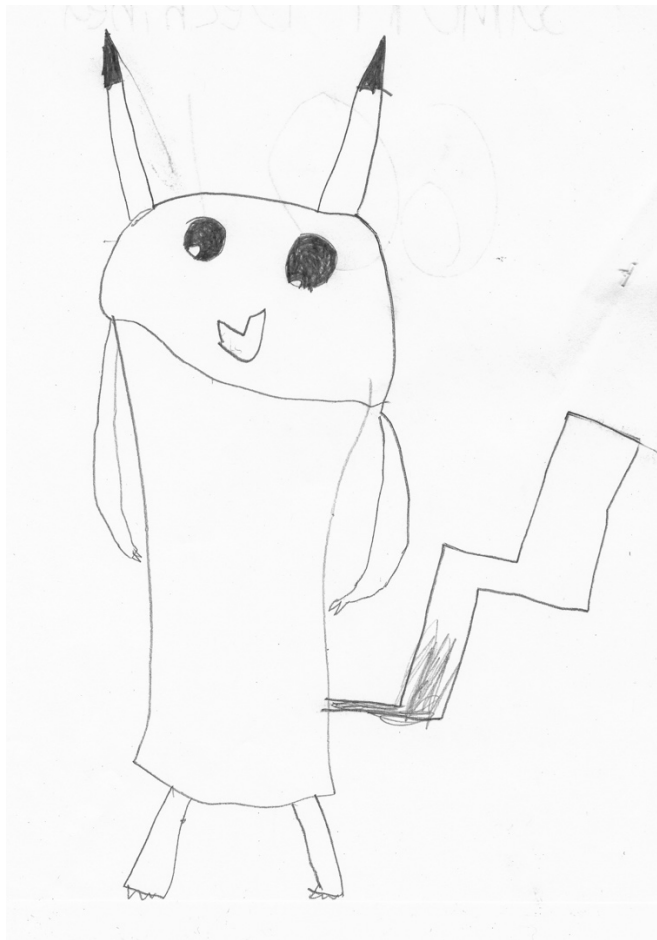


## **Poetry**

Poetry is like art.  
It has a meaning.  
It is not any art that people have seen, but it is art.  
Younger people might not understand, but wiser adults do.

You can put anything you like in poetry.  
That is the fun part about it.  
It also doesn't have to be good to be a poem.  
You can make it up too.

Some people draw to express themselves and some people write poems to express themselves.  
You can even put your entire life into the poem.  
That is why poetry is just as good as the art that you draw and create.



## Organized Violence

### Poetry is organized violence.

Poetry is what made violence all over the streets  
This started the ANTI-Trump group and march  
This is what made those terrifying fires happen.  
Poetry wanted to make the marvel super group quit

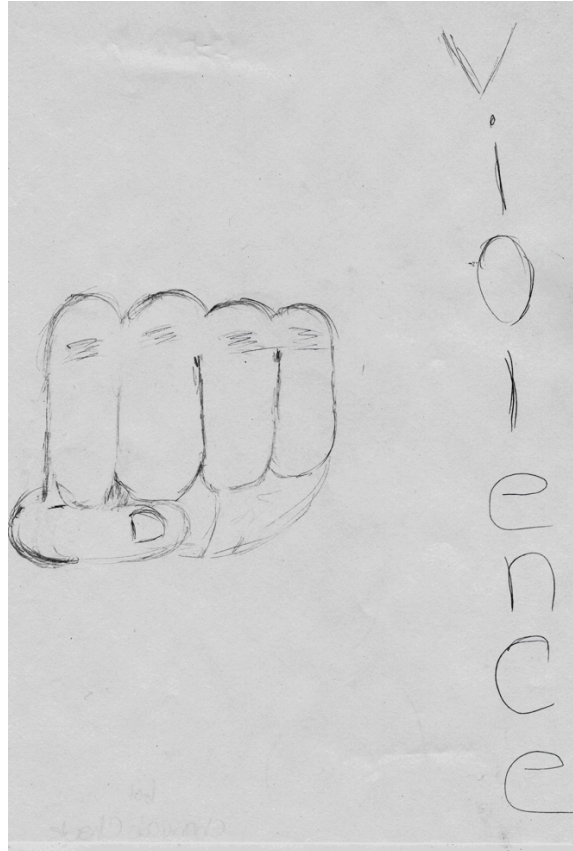
### Poetry is organized violence

The bully threw a burger a you  
P.S. it was covered in mayo  
Poetry forced you to throw back  
Which created a huge mess.

### As i say poetry is organized violence

It puts the V in vacuum  
The I in "I assume"  
It puts the O in drool  
And the the L in tool  
And the ence in cone.

### Poetry is organized violence.



## **I was born**

I was born to be an angel.  
I was born to make everyone smile.  
I was born to make everyone happy,  
when they are sad.

I was born to do things that are hard.  
I was born to say "Anything is possible,  
just put your mind to it and it would eventually happen.  
I was born to accomplish things.  
I was born to become a doctor.

I was born to do things I would never have thought  
of. I was born to put pieces together.  
I was born to love people.



## Just Wait

Just wait my beautiful green-eyed creature  
Just wait to see the light again  
I hear you cry  
I will comfort you  
Just wait to be out of that dark door  
Just wait my muscular girl  
Just wait  
I will always be there  
Even what you did to my face  
Just wait  
So I could see your beautiful face  
You are still there  
But I will wait  
So I could see your adorable white-brown face



## **My Dear Sister**

My dear sister  
My very loving sister  
She makes my heart feel bright  
She is a thousands stars to me  
She is my dear sister

My crazy sister  
She can be funny and crazy  
She is my laughing friend  
She even makes my heart laugh

My learning sister  
She helps me with life  
She helps me when I'm blue  
She can help me with homework  
When she helps me, I help her

My standing sister  
She protects me like a shield  
She is brave against her foes  
She will always have her rights

My Dear Sister

## **About Me**

Eyes are red.

My phone is dead  
I use it 24/7  
Since the age of 11  
I feel like an animal without it

Eyes are red  
I got some bread  
My phone is dead  
I need to be fed some lobster red

## **Key Word**

Would you have a click the sound of the  
charms the no worries.

The land of disney, the shoes to walk  
pink as bright as a flower.

Black as the hair on your scalp.

The sadness of cancer the hope.

They look beautiful around your neck or  
dangling off your arm.

They just shine with its beautiful charm.

Locked out your house they do just the  
job.

Never leave these in your house, or you  
would be LOCKED OUT.

## **About Me**

Poetry is eternal graffiti written in the heart of everyone.  
This poem is about things I like and what I like to do for fun.  
I like to play sports, especially basketball,  
When my teammates needs me, I call for the ball.  
I go to school in the borough of Brooklyn,  
A place I think we could all make good again.  
I love music but rap is above all,  
I love the beautiful colors of Autumn and watching the leaves fall.  
I currently live in Far Rockaway, Queens,  
I want tell you to follow your dreams.  
Anything you do or want to be,  
Just follow your dreams, please believe me!



## **I was born where nothing is free**

I was born where nothing is free. I was born where there is violence going on we need to come  
To an end. Even though some holidays are meant for coming together we should get together  
Every day. We are all family. Color or not. We should not go against each other we should be  
work together.

I was born where wishes do not come true even though you wish they would.

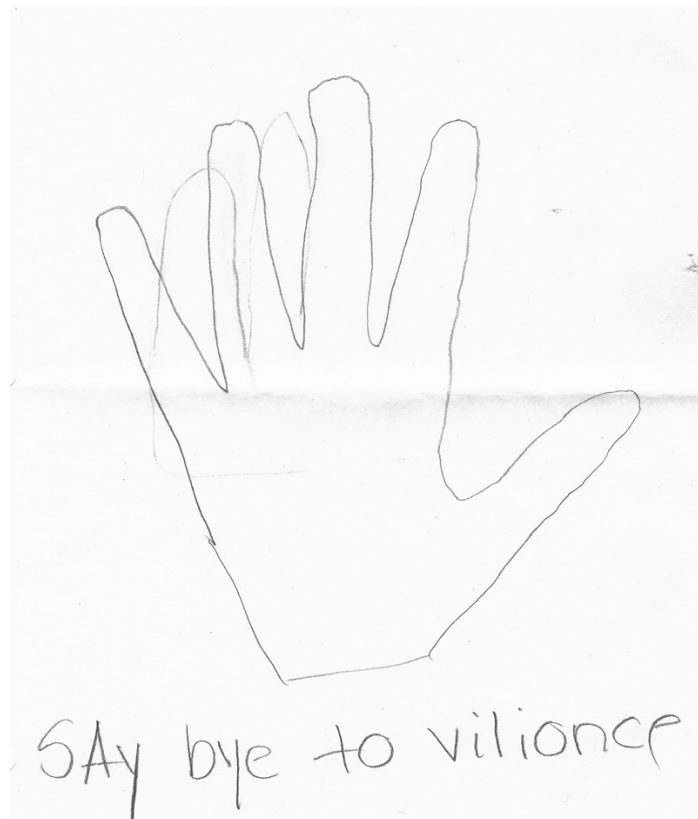
I was born where you can't trust a lot of people.

I was born where when you want something you work hard for it and and you own it  
I was born where it's really crowded with people.

I was born where things were unfair and people didn't give a care

I was born where things aren't that fancy and nice.

I was born where you might want to think 2



## **Cherish this Morning**

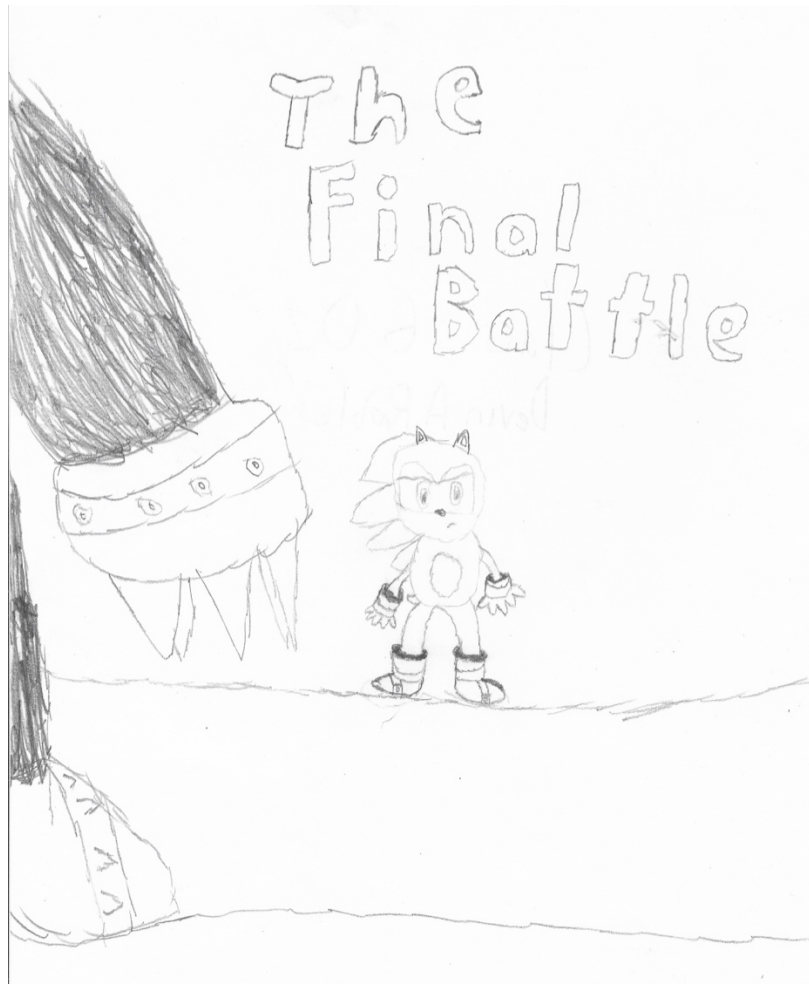
You wake up in the morning not knowing where you're going to be, what you're going to see and who you're going to meet, you wake up in the morning not knowing if today is your last morning, life is so fragile so cherish everyone everything and everyday cherish your life because everyone dies at the end

Remember and cherish the words I say, So the next day you wake up cherish that morning, cherish that afternoon, and cherish that night and pray to god the next day you'll see the sun shine its light

You will see it bright

## The Last Dream

The Last Dream I had felt like terror.  
It felt like the moon crashing down on Earth.  
It felt like messing with gravity.  
It felt like a mask with evil powers.  
It felt like falling for a long time and surviving.  
It felt like the last dream.  
The last dream from last night.  
The final day.  
But only three days.  
But there is a fourth day.  
After the last dream.  
I was awakened.  
I was worried about all the bad things.  
The bad things about the Earth.  
But it was just a dream.  
The Last Dream.



## **TORNADO**

a tornado is like a vortex

there is a sharknado

tornado

firenado

a tornado can move an object off its feet

a sharknado is a tornado with sharks

a firenado can burn you

tornadoes are dangerous

Rocky and Suzie rode a horse into an alley.  
While there was a petamon rally.  
Badie and Generald saw the saddle.  
And challenged them to a petamon battle.

The battle Suzy did win.  
With one spectacular great big spin.  
But Rocky did have quite a challenge.  
Beating Generald.

## Rhymes

My eyes are brown  
You can also take me down  
My phone is dead

My dog has to be fed  
21 and 0  
Beat you in a row

Your lips are crusty  
Your arms are dusty  
Why are you so must

Greek gods  
Tick tock

What would the world be  
Without me  
Would it be fun  
Even when the world is done

Tagged with a price

Have you ever rolled a dice

## Rhymes II

A city that never sleeps  
Some people can't even eat  
Donald Trump

Is a dump

Crime

Time

Dime

Some people don't even have a dime  
Some people can't even tell time

It's sad

That some people don't like their past

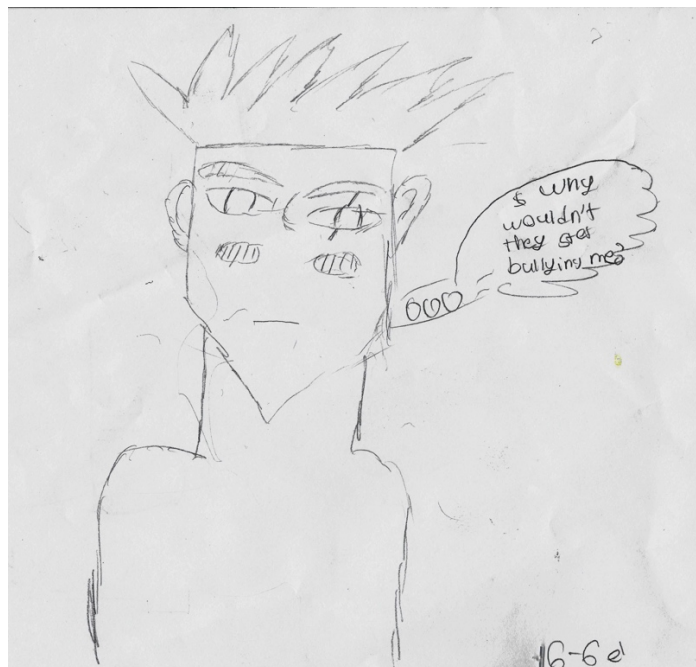
People can be in cast

Barack Obama

People can cause drama

Even if we are dead

My dog will still have to be fed



## **You Risk Your Life**

You step outside you risk your  
life. You take a drink of water  
you risk your life. You  
breathe you risk your life. You speak you  
Risk your life. You sleep  
you risk your life. If you look at someone  
You risk your life. You smell  
you risk your life. You run you risk you  
risk your life. You don't work  
you risk your life. You eat you risk your  
life. You drive you risk your  
life. You walk you risk your life. You try to  
Forgive someone you risk  
your life. You dance you risk your life. You  
Sing you risk your life. You  
bleed you risk your life. The future, that  
You can risk your life in.

## Believe

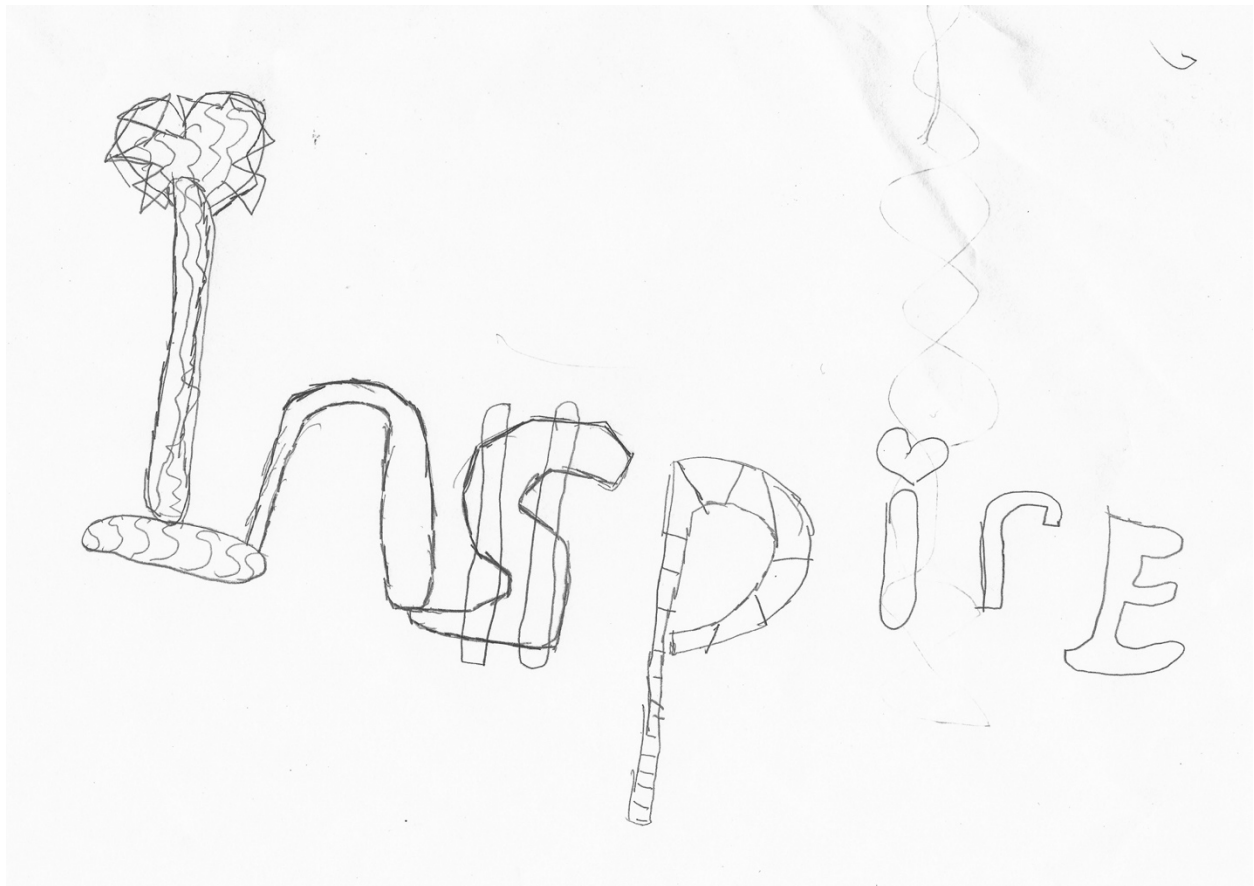
Inspire others, study hard, dare to dream, laugh a little more.

respect each other, care and share & just imagine you're right here.

be creative read & learn be curious don't forget to blow your  
horn.

be weird be funny be determined to get the money

never settle for less and then you know that you can be the best.





## **Future Days**

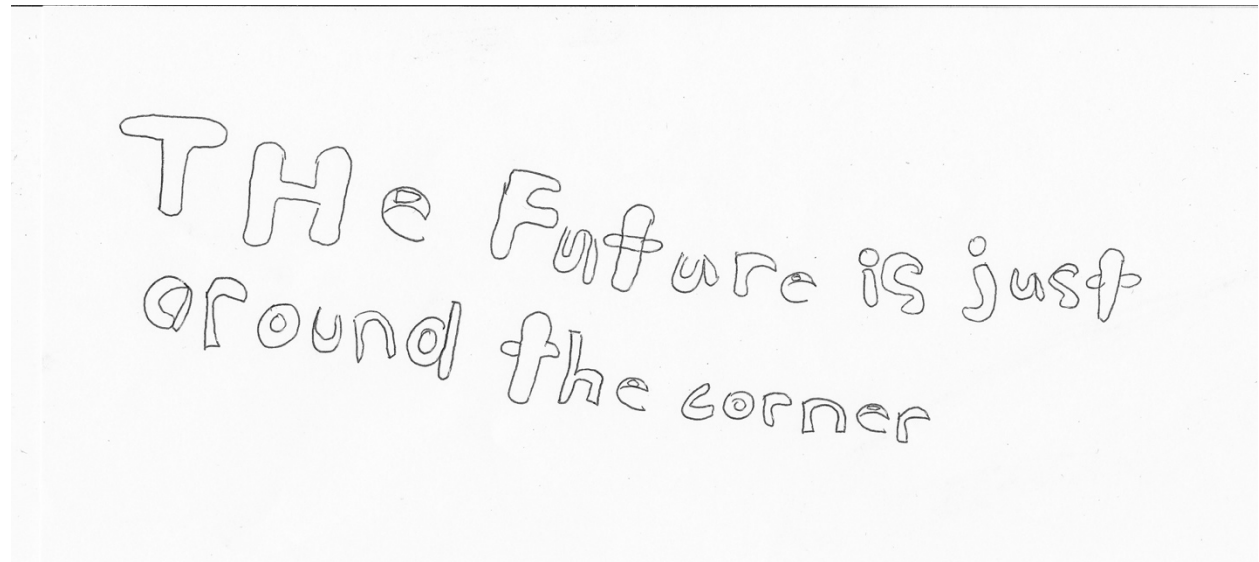
Kanye is president  
states are crazy  
New York is wild  
Kanye's friends are freed from jail  
In 2020 Kanye will mess up the White House  
Kanye quits the job of being president  
Ten years later robots wake you up in the morning  
Helping you eat breakfast Drones fly you to school  
Get a call home the robots give you a licken  
Robots are now teachers hacking into computer and tv  
Police are now robots that support humans  
The statue of liberty falls and robots fix it in an hour  
Tigers and Lions go extinct  
Humans go extinct  
Dogs go into packs of groups to hunt and find food  
Dogs go extinct  
Now god reborned us as robots  
We now have a new life

## **The future is just around the corner**

Just around the corner there will be robots doing our work. Just around the corner the technology will be better.

Just around the corner houses will be bigger. Just around the corner we will have a new president. Just around the corner the United States will have more people moving into America

Just around the corner you will be laughing. Just around the corner you will be smiling so I want you to think what will the future be.



## **YOUNG BUT NOW OLD**

I once was young but now I'm old.  
You would not believe the lies I told.  
I use to hang out with paper the pig.  
Until she told me to sabotage my sisters  
Curly wig.

I didn't know what ran through my  
head. But what I did know was if I  
listened to paper the pig I would be  
the star of the walking dead.

When my sister find out I that I was  
About to sabotage her favorite wig. Her  
head almost explode. She got so mad  
she made the devil cry.

## **My Life**

My Life to me was bad,  
Most of the people around me were mad,  
Some were sad,  
Most thought they were rad,  
But some were glad,

My Life to me was a bother,  
As I looked for my charger,  
Here comes my father,  
Talking about Harvard

My Life to me was hard,  
I would go in the yard,  
Watching the guard's,  
Playing cards,

BUT NOW my life to me has meaning,  
I am a human bean,  
I can cleaning,  
I can scream,  
I can make all sorts of themes,

But when I shut my eyes,  
And I dream into the night  
I now have space to think about my life,  
And this time I'll think about it right,  
To night is the night,  
My life

## **Have you wondered**

Have you wondered what the world would be like without me?

Well my eyes are brown  
I feel upside down  
But You can't bring me down  
My world is just great

Have you ever felt unsafe?  
Have you been put in your place?  
Have you wondered what the world would be like without me?

I see everything being weird  
Have you ever been feared  
Don't fear me  
Love me  
Protect me  
Shield me from the unknown

Have you wondered what the future holds for you?  
Did it have to be like this?  
Did you hope it happened like this?  
Did you hope it was something great for you?  
Have you felt unliked?  
Is that a bad sign?  
Will that make you thrive?  
Will that give you a reason to stay alive?

## **The Future**

When I look into the future  
There will be robots  
There will be aliens  
There will be saucers in the clouds.  
But there will be a memory stick in my head.  
There will be a tracking device in my feet.  
There is a computer sim in my head and  
No computers any where.  
When I look into the future  
There will be unexplained things happning  
In the world.

## The Future

2186

Flying cars  
Iphone 187s  
Robots take over the world  
Drones flying everywhere  
No more guns  
Mystical creatures  
Literal Air Jordan's

2186

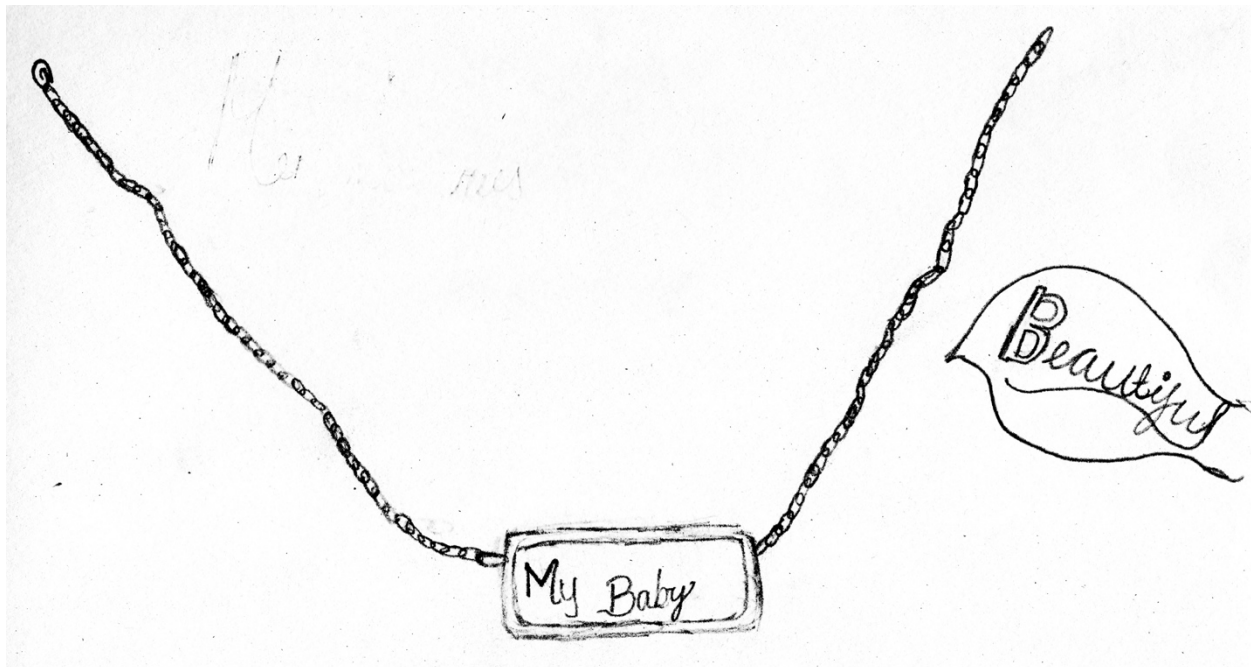
Food pills  
Put one in the microwave and the whole meal comes out  
You won't need jobs  
You'll get paid for living  
Dog translator  
Face scanners as ID  
Invisible glasses  
Indestructible phones  
Real unlimited data

2186

Global warming reversed  
Real hoverboards  
Better style  
Auto drive  
All cancers will have a cure for free  
Everything vending machine  
You just type in what you want and it comes out  
The Third Black Woman elected President

## Self portrait

A shiny gold necklace is what it is. Small and light, yet so big and heavy from carrying all my memories. It has a smooth surface with rough edges but it is quite beautiful if you ask me. It has been with me from birth and is still with me now. You are like a crystal in which I reference back to my past. You will never go out of style. Just like my memories you are a special piece of me that I will always cherish.





## **Best friends**

When you fall what does your best friend do  
Laugh at you and then helps you up.  
They always got your back no matter what  
Your shoulder to cry on  
Believes in you; they encourage you  
To follow your dreams  
A best friend is someone that understands  
You better than anyone else; Good times are  
Even better with a best friend.

## **Ring**

I am shiny but old. I am not much but made out of gold. I am your ring

I have been with you through thick and thin. I am your ring.

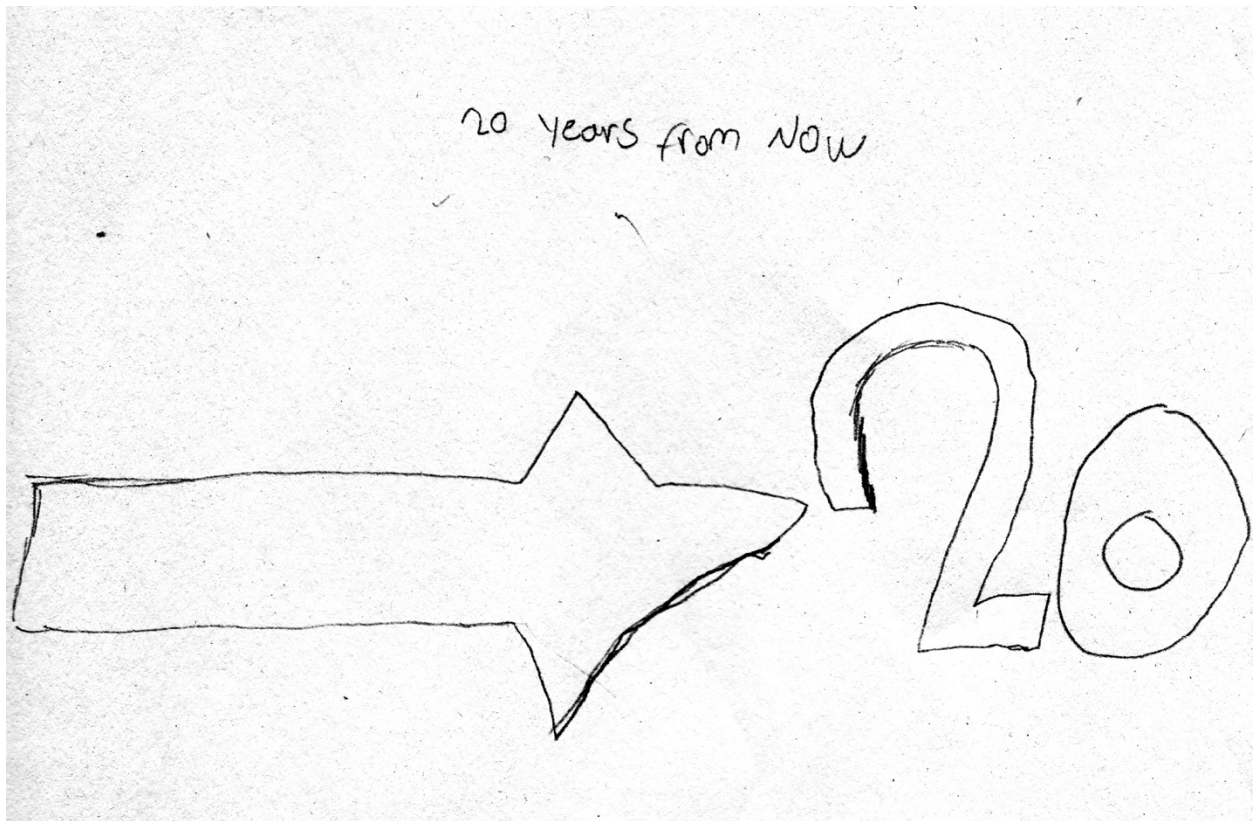
When you lose me you cry. When I lose you I am worthless. I am your ring.

I am shiny I have grown up with you through out the years. I have been with you through thin and thick.

When you lose me you will cry. When I lose you I cry. I am your ring.

I am worthless without you. You are my bestfriend as I am yours. I am your ring.





## The Future of America

People on computers taking their time. People relaxing inside their flying cars. With people so high, above the sky they lie, as Robot workers doing their job. As the years go past of good and bad,

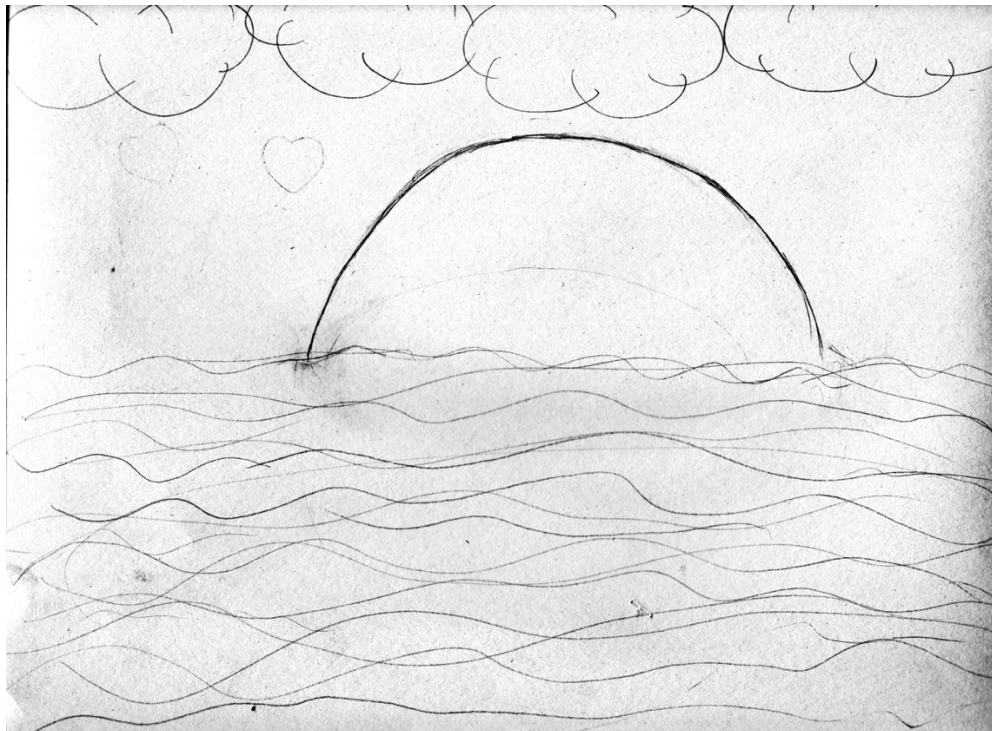
The buildings go higher than kites, and people in roads will be all safe. With streets and highways will be less traffic in the streets. And people will go to jobs in peace of their time especially at time of their jobs.

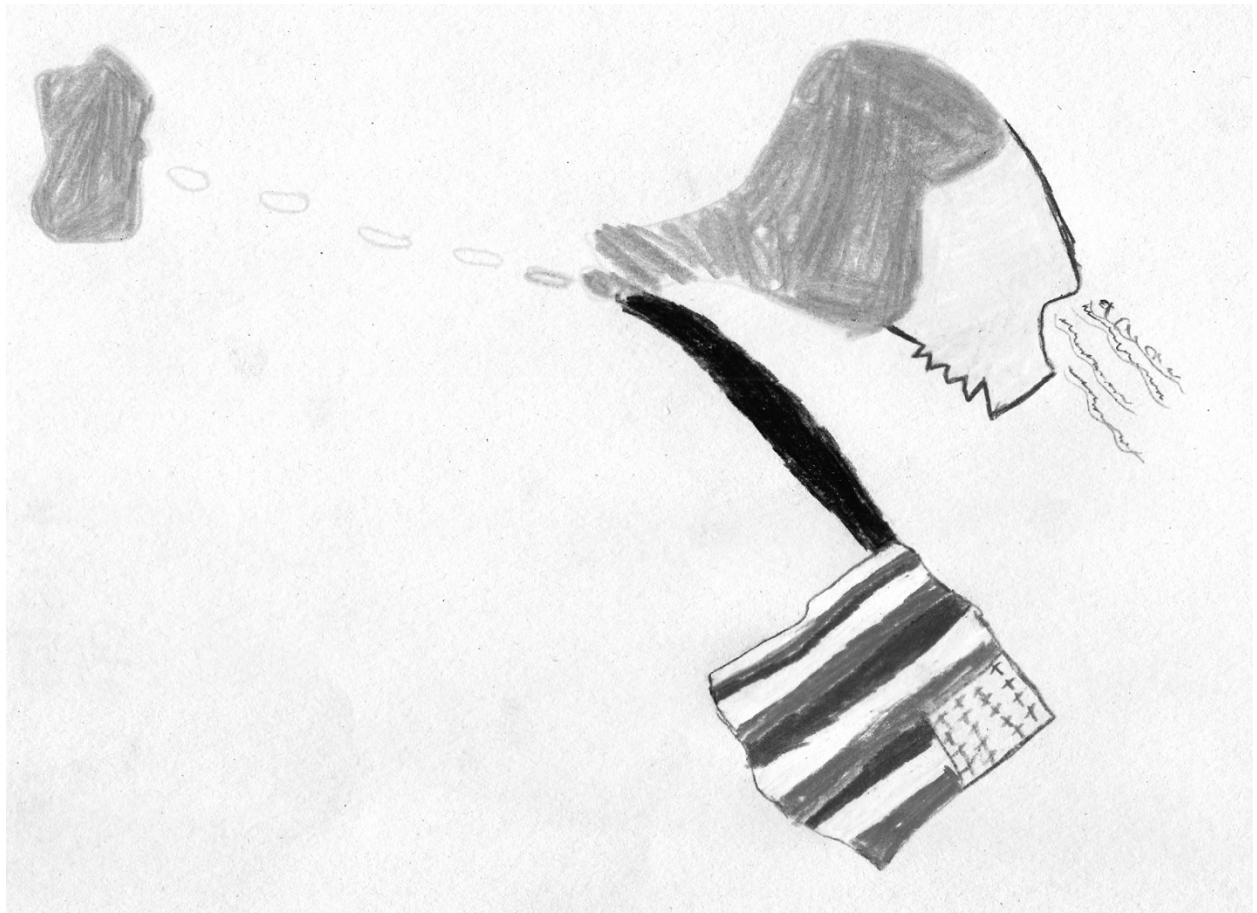
The future lay next to me softly drifting to sleep, My future your future our future to keep. Our future is decided by what we do, and we have to be careful about what to do.



## 20 Years Later

Let me tell you about 20 years later  
It all happened-but imma see you later skater  
Cause when I look up at the skies  
I see that I'm a little bit older and wise  
And nobody can tell me I look, act like a child  
But the world is wild!  
Cause I got the job and I ain't no slob  
But I'm waking up tryna see what's wrong  
Then I see the world is black  
No one can ever take it back  
...Come Fix It...  
Yet I'm going to work-time to get ready  
But I ain't really steady  
I see the robots out changing the world  
I get it-but ima hide from the new world  
I look and I see the right one  
One I can see-One to be  
But I got three people with me  
Go catch the key  
But wait I gotta go, go to work I need Money!  
Wanna know what's funny?  
..I woke up knowing that it was only just a dream..





## The Life of a Surgeon

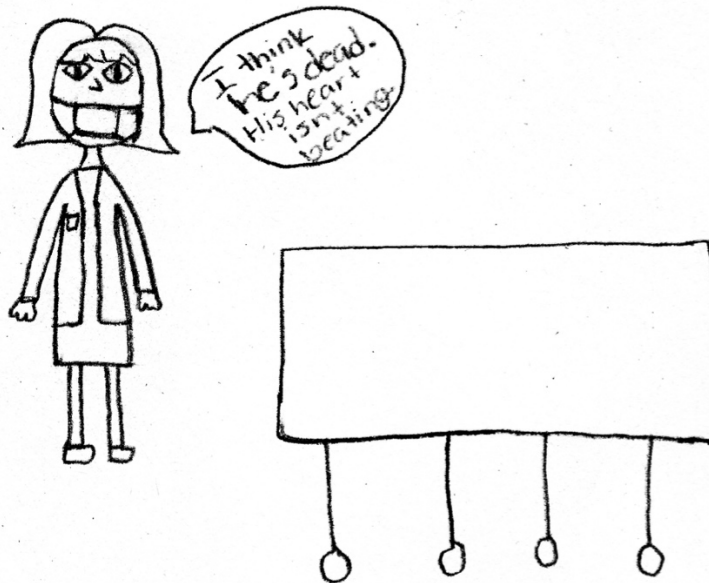
15 YEARS LATER...

This is my future  
Only doing what I love  
The Life of a Surgeon  
A professional surgeon

I sat in my doctor's office writing notes about a patient...  
Right after I cut open his kidney and removed the stones  
I didn't know he was already dead before I even began to slice his skin.  
The guilty anesthesiologist got fired.  
The poor man died under those drugs  
Yes I was used to this but it is still sad to put an X-ray over someone and see their heart isn't  
beating.  
I still love doing what I do.  
The Life Of a Surgeon

It took a lot to get where I am now  
Ten years is way too many is what some would say  
Degrees, certificates, studying, years of college, and patience

On my way to be living...  
The Life Of a Surgeon  
A professional surgeon



**In the future**

In the future the sky is Orange

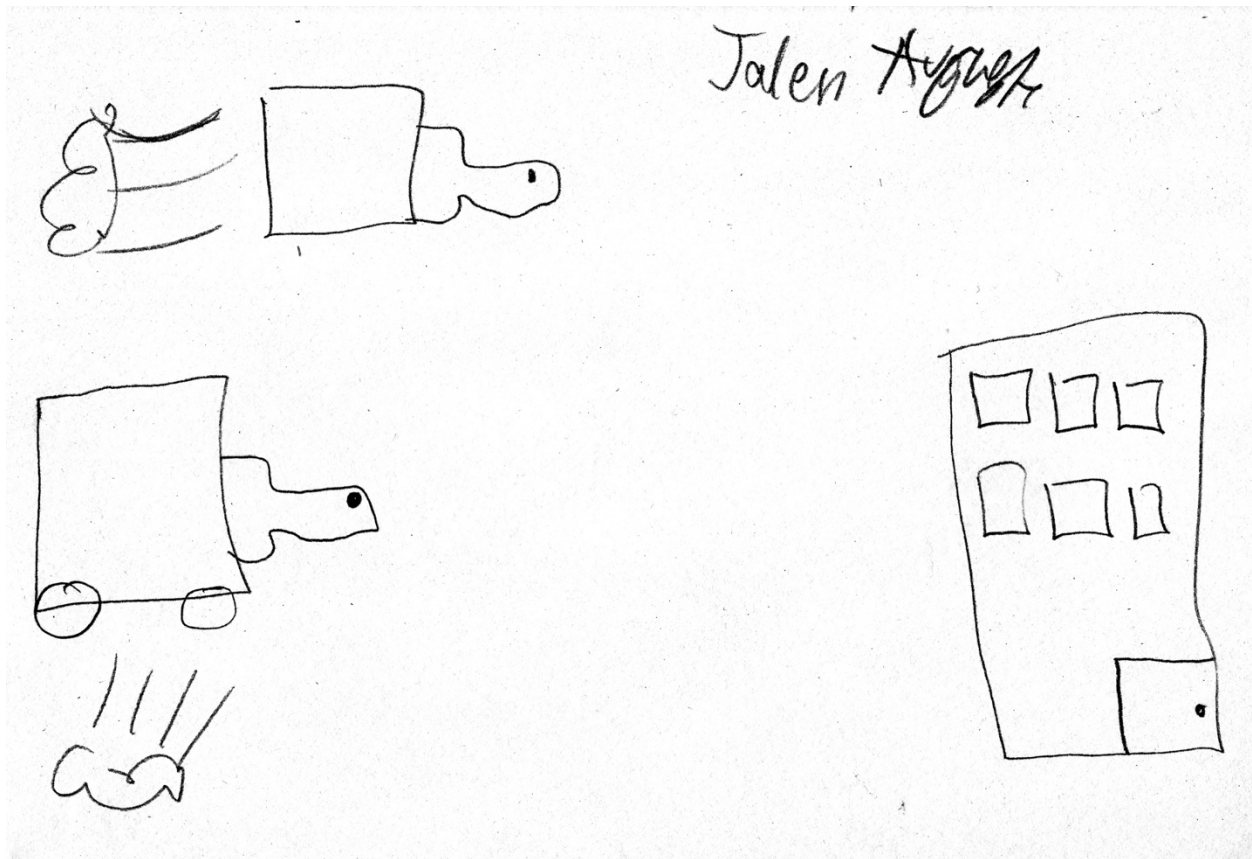
In the future the buildings will be Black and Gold

In the future the fishes will be 25 feet wide

In the future homeless people will have trees to live in

In the future you can create your own bed and door

In te future in 2020 MICHELLE OBAMA WILL BECOME THE FIRST WOMEN PRESIDENT AND THE SECOND AFRICAN AMERICAN PRESIDENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!





## Beyond The Days

Beyond the days

People with jobs

People getting married and having kids to live a special life

Beyond the days

Couples break apart

And go their lanes and find other people to be loyal

Beyond the days

People with jobs can get unicorns and ponies for their child(REN)

And people can have happy lives with their families

And be the best in the world for other people to see

Beyond the days

Celebrities getting old

And getting elected to be president

And making America great again/the world a better place

Beyond the days

People get bigger attitudes/gratitude

That changes their personality

And might become a different person



## In The Years

In the years, People are respectful to each other. Kids giggling while they're being pushed on the swing. Parents smiling as they see their children jumping up and down as the chocolate chip dough ice cream slips down their chin as they say, "Thank you, Mr. Ice cream man!!!"

In the years, there will be war. Children crying. People dying. Nowhere to run or hide. Wishing that there wasn't a war in the first place.

In the years, it won't be a perfect world. There will be war almost every day. There will be days when it's ok but you'll wake up and remember everything isn't ok.

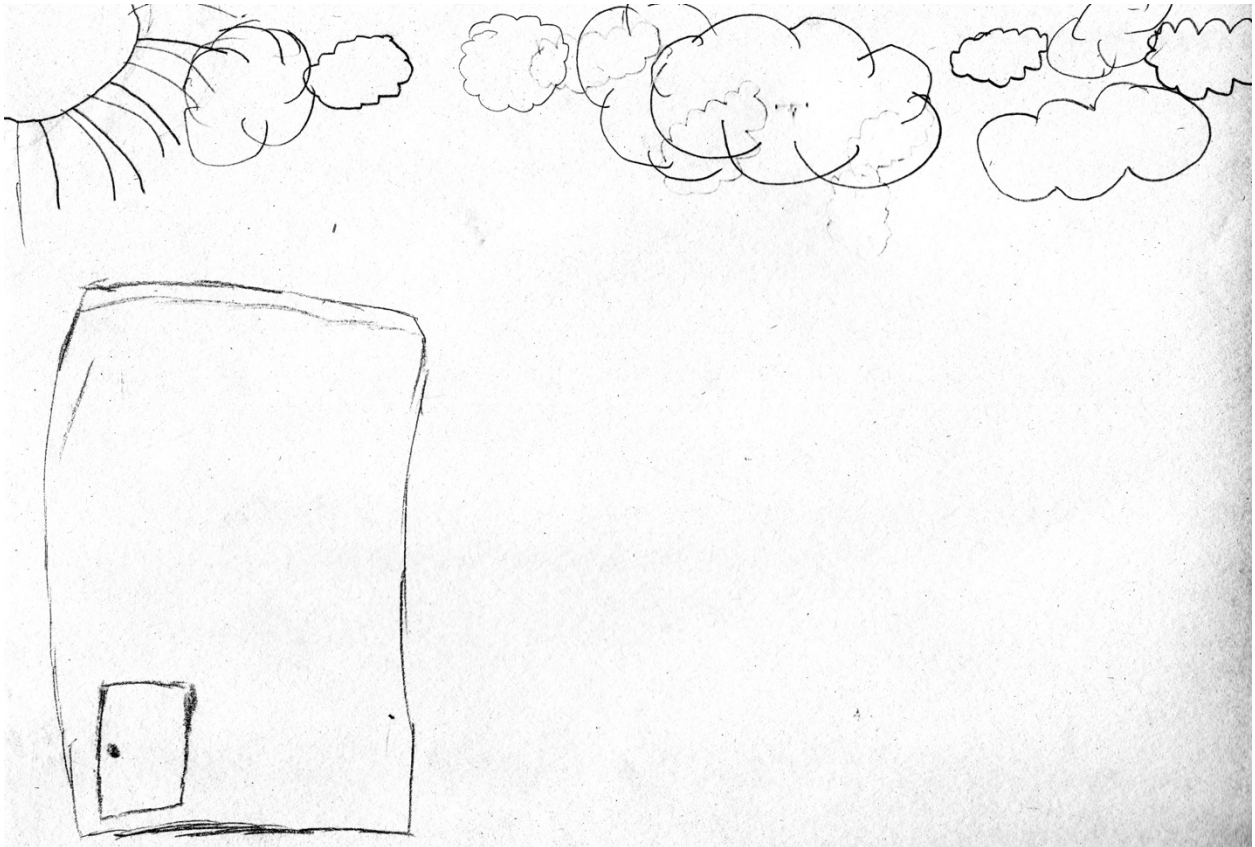


## 20 years later

In the future 20 years later I see people flying saying goodnight neighbor. Robots around the house cleaning up my mess and they take out my cereal as I get ready for bed.

My talking bed asks if I'm ready to sleep I said yes so he adjusted my seat. My alarm clock goes dinggggg and I'm pushed out the bed machine dressing me I do wish I could go back to my bed imagine where I want to go woosh there I am.

Flying desk and magic board annoying robot boss machines cleaning the floor with their snot hey at least its shiny time to go back home woosh there I am and I do everything over again.



## Rainbows and Unicorns

In the future.....  
I would love for unicorns to exist  
Hmmm, how about rainbows, I would add that to my list

Just imagine all the cool places you can go.  
Just sliding down the rainbow facing your toes.  
All the raindrops just rolling down your cheeks.  
Just don't be scared, you probably will screech and scream.

All of the unicorns, colorful hairs  
Have long legs to jump here to there.  
Their neighs sound like pins falling on the ground.  
Just listen closely you would enjoy the sound.

Just whatever you do  
Do not look down.  
You will get dizzy  
Like you spun round and round.

## Strikes and Pain

I am tired of hearing cruelty on the news.  
Trying to solve cases but no one has a clue.  
People getting killed for no apparent reason.  
Then you will find them on the floor or not even breathing.

People are getting beaten to death.  
Don't have the chance to their very last breath.  
Growing in the dark all-alone.  
Or sitting by the lake throwing small black stones.

I cry my heart out, even my heart have tears.  
All the bad don't have the guts to care.  
I feel very bad every time I think of it.  
All you have to do is trick them and that's it.

Kids are getting kidnapped  
Probably every 5 minutes.  
That's all it takes.  
Please tell me that you're kidding.

That really breaks my heart. Literally BREAK IT. Feels like  
I'm getting attacked but I just have to take it.

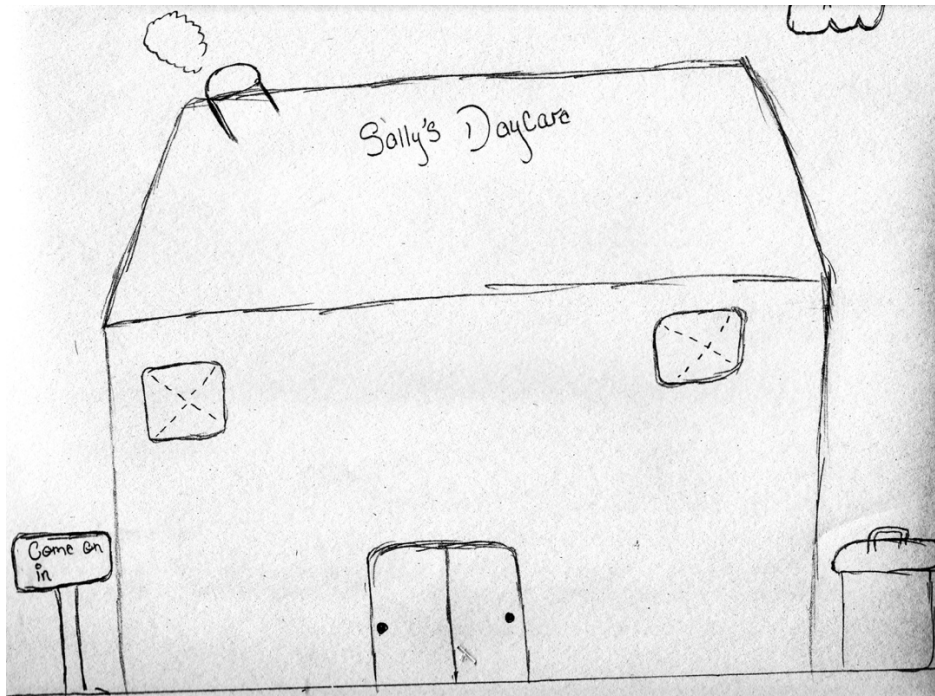
## School and education

So look, let me start with school education.  
Get good grades and have a lot of patience.  
I know most work don't make a lot of sense.  
But go to high school then college and get your license.

I know you like to hit the folks and like to Milly Rock.  
But when we in school all of that need to stop.  
This is not a dance class it's for learning  
Not for wandering around and always lurking.

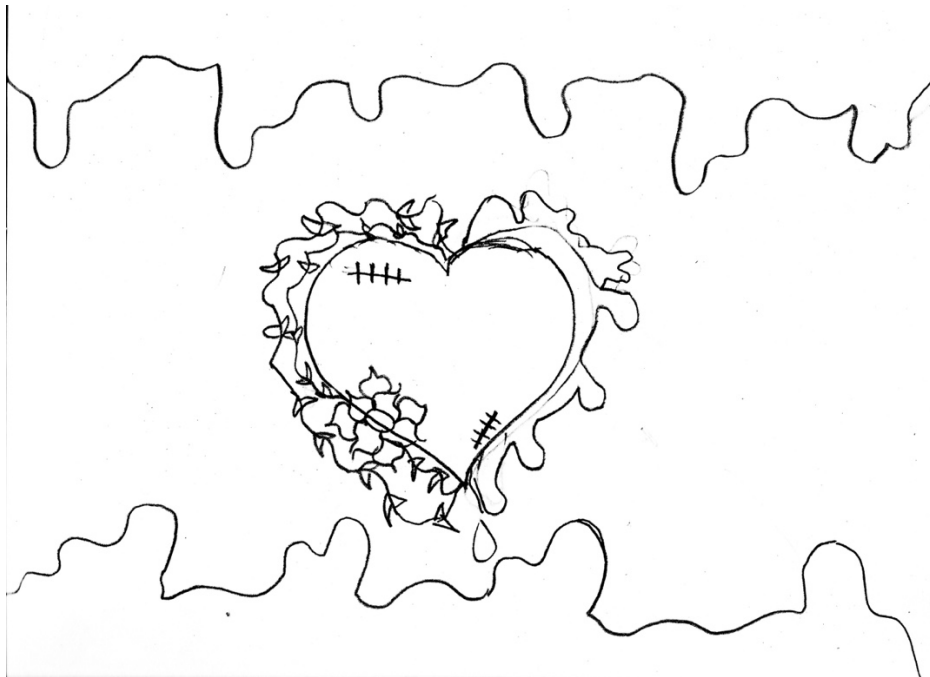
You need to pay attention so you won't get lost.  
You're saying that teachers are mean, that's false.  
They are just trying to push you to a higher grade.  
There are not your friends, neither your maid.

To be honest my grades are very very low.  
But I'm going to fix that today though.  
Not focused on anything not important  
And more that's on my final report.  
I'm not going to disappoint my parents anymore  
And I'm doing all my work and I'm positive sure.  
They wont have to be mad or sad. All I want for them is to  
be glad.



## The kids who are different

I'm different  
I'm not the only one  
We have been bullied, heartbroken, abused, and felt pain  
Depressed because of a broken heart  
So much pain my friend tried to kill himself  
Got laughed at but it was no laughing matter  
My cousin in fourth grade  
was called UGLY because of a birthmark on her face  
She cried and cried and told her mom that the teacher did NOTHING  
She got laughed at every day  
In my eyes she was BEAUTIFUL  
Is this all worth it living a life  
Sometimes you feel like you want to die  
Sometimes you just want to curl up in a ball and never leave it  
Needing a shoulder to cry on, but nobody there to lean on  
Sometimes I wonder if it's just sanity  
But then again I'm not the only one  
I don't stand alone  
There are kids just like me  
I know we are not alone  
And we fight together  
And stand together as one



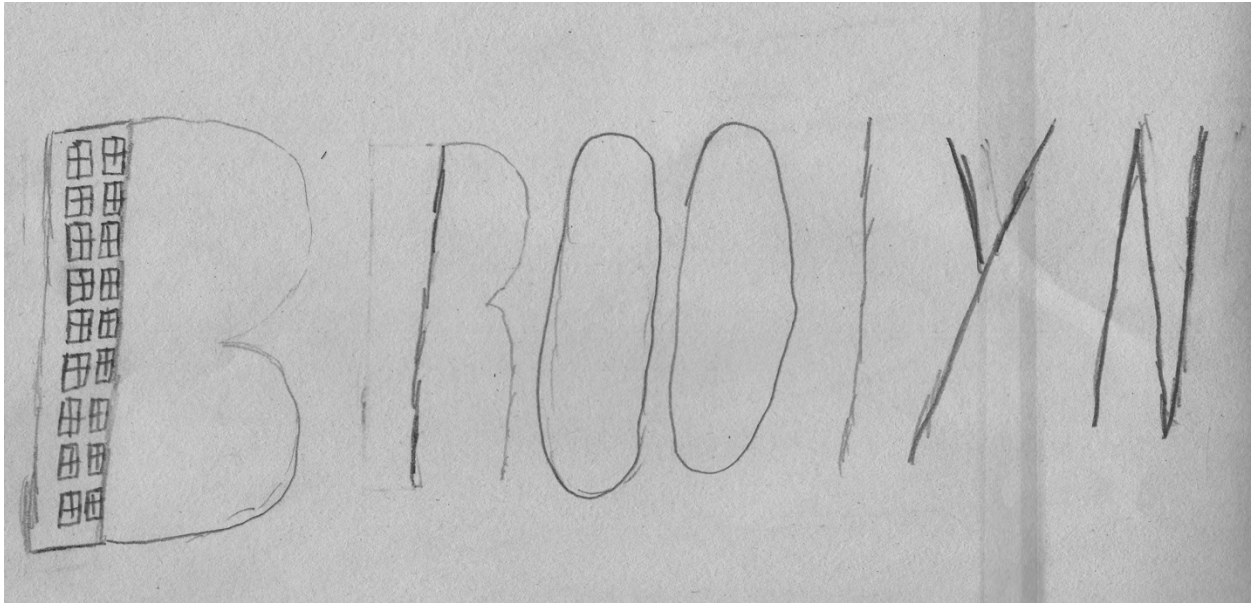
## A Normal Day, Ordinary Life

Just a normal day, my ordinary life  
Wake up, brush teeth, breakfast, gonna need a butter knife.  
Just a normal day, peaceful afternoon,  
Wait! If it's afternoon why is there a moon,  
I check around, I check my watch,  
Wait! My watch! It's a kukoo klock!  
This is not normal, ordinary, nor calm!  
This world... it's a chaos bomb!  
The clouds cotton candy, the rain iced tea,  
"The sun is smiling and it's staring at me!"  
I admit I do not like a normal ordinary life,  
So this life I can give it a try.  
I ate, played, slept, all day,  
I stayed there three months and, "it was okay."  
Finally, it was time to go home,  
Funny right, there was a passage through my phone.  
But when it was time to jump in,  
The creatures of the forest stopped me there and then.  
I had no choice but to fight,  
To get back to my ordinary life.  
I punched, kicked, sliced, and diced,  
Then jumped right in, "Wait, where am I?"  
I wasn't at my home,  
But no chaos was shown.  
I jumped in again, again, again, and again,  
Nowhere was my home not now not then.  
I took a deep breath, counted 1-10,  
Ha! Reminds me of buckle my shoe and the big fat hen!  
Now I closed my eyes and thought my home,  
And jumped right in as my imagination grown.  
Now I looked around and everything was right.  
Because... "It was my normal day and ordinary LIFE"









## In 10 years from now

In 10 years from now I'll be getting my  
Master degrees in fine arts and  
I will have a car

In 10 years from now I have an apartment  
But not a house

In 10 years from now I fly on top  
of the world and Sing higher than a bird

In 10 years from now life will  
be my guide

In 10 years from now my friends  
will have been gone

In 10 years from now a new door  
will have been open

In 10 year from now my heart  
will have been broken

In 10 years from now I may not  
know what will happen but I know  
It will be worth the wait.



## I'm the color

I make color every time I glide against the paper. I make color with the thin and lined with stirps surrounding me with the horrors of life. I'm used majorly because I'm special. I'm the color.

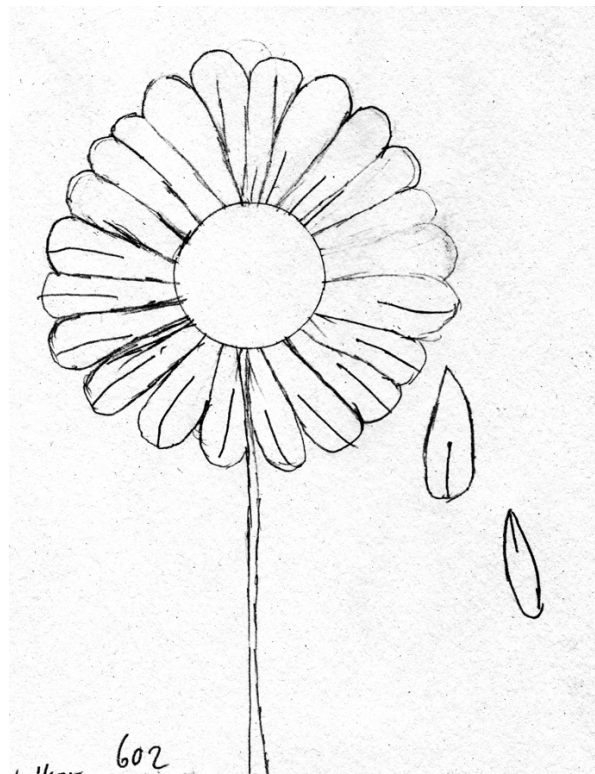


### What's a poem?

A poem is a message in a  
bottle to be cast onto unk-  
nown shores, its goal. A p-  
lace with dreams and thoughts.  
Like a flower giving away its  
nutrients. With flowers petals  
falling one by one.

### In the future.....

In the future there will be people  
meeting other people. There will  
Be hope and dreams going down  
A well. The world and people are  
changing .There will be new  
adventure. There will be flying  
Cars exploring the world. People  
Leave for the better, but you still  
Want to hold on.



## **Imagine**

Imagine,  
A world with success  
A world with peace  
A world with less violence  
And maybe a world with me as the first black female president

Close your eyes and Imagine,  
A place you pay more taxes  
A place where everyone is equal and treated the same  
A place where everyone is a star without hate  
And maybe a place with children with bigger attitudes  
But people with gratitude

Yes it's possible...Imagine,  
A world with leaders  
A world with motivators and achievers  
And a world with believers that imagine the world  
Could be a better place



## Ten Years from Now

Ten years from now I will look back ten years back and laugh.

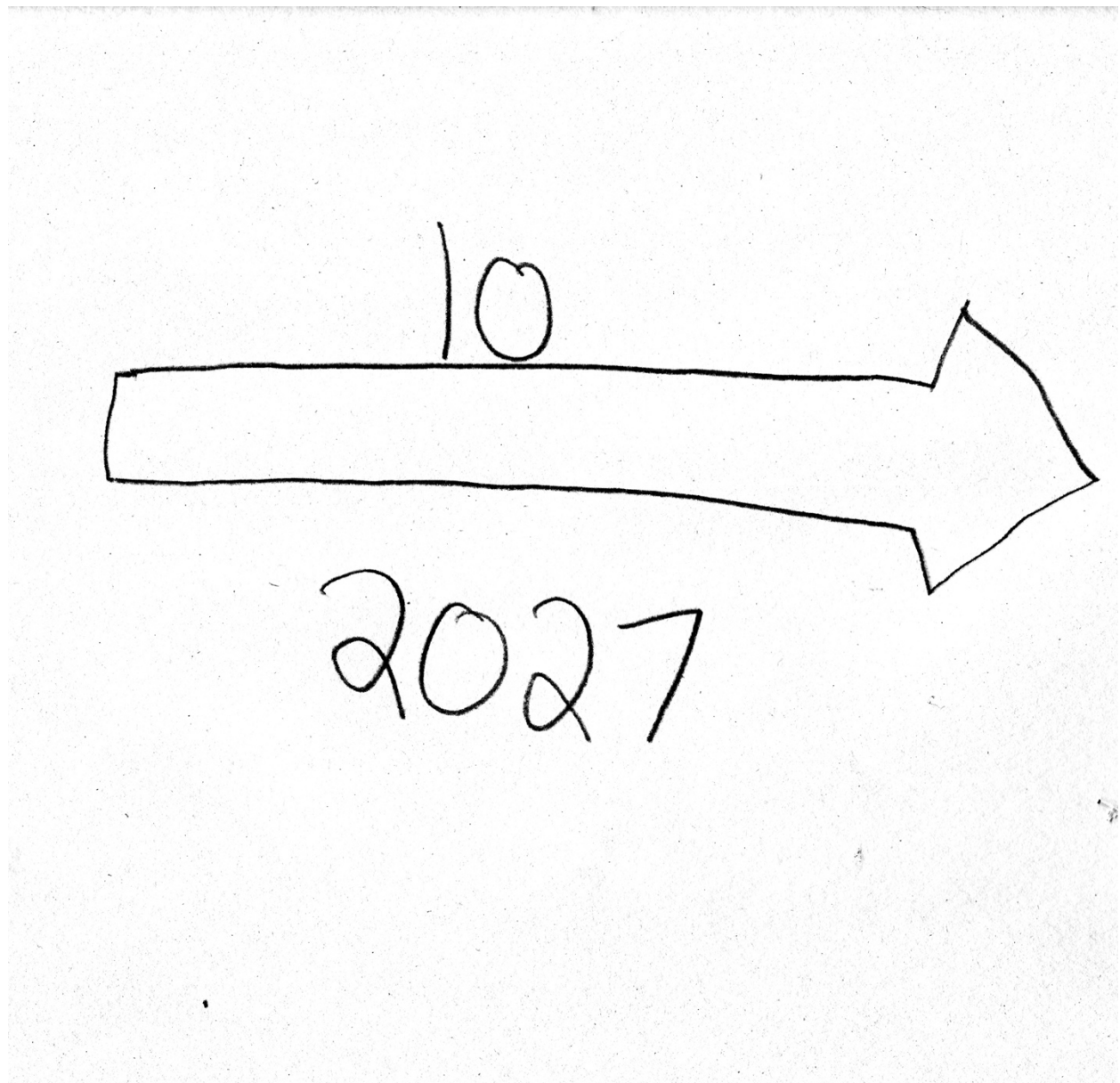
Ten years from now I will have dreams about time travel like how I had dreams about flying cars ten years back.

Ten Years from now life will have a new meaning than ten years back when the meaning was to have the new J's or beat a video game.

Ten years from now my life will have a new meaning and I will have way more responsibility than take out the trash, walk the dog, and get good grades.

Ten years from now I will not be able to cry to my mom every time life does not go my way.

Ten years from now from now I will be thinking about ten years from now.





## **Poetry Is...**

Poetry is a blind bird singing along with the trees.  
It can be as crooked as Donald Trump's mind, or as straight as a ruler.  
It can make you angry or sad, or you will enjoy it and become glad.

Poetry is a blind bird singing along with the trees. It can make you smile, or make you want to run away a million miles.

It will make you sing all day, or just want to go to a farm, just so you can hide in the hay.

Poetry is a blind bird singing along with the trees, deep yet enjoyable.



I was born on December, 14, 2004 it was cold. I was born in a hospital and for three days my mom had to stay with me because I had asthma. I couldn't breath. It was like a dark hole. I was born as a quiet sad child. I was born lost and afraid. I was born in fear of myself and my emotions. I was born like a porcelain doll. I was born in a place were you would think had more hope and made your heart like a dismal hole. I was born trying to figure out my purpose. I was born learning the american dream is not a dream but a nightmare. I was born with despair and vengance in my heart. I was born with fear of a tall brown chair. I was born like a dark angel tied to the chains of earth. I was born as the dismay of my mother. I was born. I was born. I was born to be me.



## I Never Knew

It all started as a good day  
We went outside to go and play  
Got another cold food tray  
The same old thing I say

I went in the car  
My mom picked me up  
She had bad news  
To tell her daughter and son

She said he was in a good place  
In every way  
He had a terrible sickness  
Lupus was its name

My stepbrother that I rarely knew  
He was good child  
He visited a few

I looked through pictures  
They were mostly black and white  
He had black hair  
And big brown eyes

Why did this have to happen to him?  
Why didn't it let him live?  
Who was there?  
How long have it been?

So many questions  
Swirling in my head  
I never knew my stepbrother  
Was going to be dead  
Life's mysterious tricks  
Can get in the way  
I can't believe it happened  
In just two days

Henley we love you  
And we will remember you in our gut  
One day I will meet you  
One day I will come

Stay in the same place  
I'll figure a way to reach  
Don't get in a fit  
I'll start by the beach

Poetry is your world that you can control

## Afros

I like afros. I always have. I would try grow one but my hair takes to long to grow. Sometimes I go on Google and look at people who had afros. My dad told me that he had an afro but he cut it off, his head would often get hot. He said that he wanted an afro like the one's in the 70's. I found a bunch of characters from television shows like a guy from the "That's 70's Show" I forgot his name but his afro was huge. I also found that Julius Irving had a big afro too.



## **Moonlight Path Lotion**

A small purplish bottle that smells like joy  
When it gets on your hand it feels smooth and creamy  
That gives you an open-hearted feeling  
You shouldn't eat it because it's a spread for your body  
But if you do eat it... it's disgusting  
Makes you feel confident and ready to take risk for anything



### **“Self Portrait as Keys”**

She holds me in her hands, my rough detailed skin. I was in her pocket I jingled knowing it annoyed her while we got to our destination. I make her hand smell like metal if she holds me for too long. For once I have good use! I open the luxuries of her life. I was hung up on a hook. Then quickly taken down and stowed away where darkness shines bright. I once sat there for two long nights in a row. I was sad cold and alone. Then I heard pounding on the window. It sounded like hail hitting the ground. But, I couldn't do anything. I just laid there restless. I hoped that she would come back soon. Then as I was about to give up hope I saw a light.



## **Self Portrait as Drumstick**

I am a drumstick

Me and my smooth texture

Could pound on that dumb snare's skin and enjoy as it gets louder and louder every hit, I'm a master beat maker everybody will hear my sound.

You think I'm too shiny to be wood, maybe I like the attention, I'm a drumstick just to mention.



## **Self Portrait as Phone**

I have an alarm I have a clock

I store many memories I have a lock

I am small but I can do great things

Like tell you a story about amazing findings

I am a phone yes it's true but one thing I wish I could do is talk to you

You stare at me all day and I don't feel like I'm in use I feel like I'm being used more than you ever knew

Yeah yeah I know it's not your fault but I just want to feel more than a phone

I have feelings too

## On a New Day

On a old day.

Wars were fought, people we lost. Lives were destroyed, lost in the void. People would cry, there souls would cry. Homes were gone, by the strike of dawn. But wipe your tears, didn't you hear?

Today's a new day.

On a new day.

The sun will shine, to stop the cries. Wars are gone, peace we won. People reunited and were not spited. Kids would play and then lay. In the grass where people pray. Now don't you see. Now we can be.

On a new day.





On the day one week away from summer break I walked towards the kitchen to get more french-fries from the microwave. In an instant, when I reached for the French fries the glass structure part fell out of the microwave and cracked on my left foot. While my mother heard the glass break she rushed towards the kitchen only to be in shock when she saw it happen. In a hurry my mother called an ambulance to carry me to the hospital, before the ambulance came my mother got an ice pack with paper-towels around it to make the bleeding stop. Once the ambulance came it took me to the hospital where they stitched my foot. After all that happened I was traumatized to go near the microwave where it will happen again. This is my earliest memory.



## **Self Portrait as Sleep**

I am sleep  
Taking over your body  
Making you Tired  
Energy draining  
Eyes closing

Yawning loudly  
Wrapped up in your soft blanket  
Dreaming sweat dreams  
And falling asleep  
I am sleep

## **My feelings of depression**

My feelings are a bat trapped in a cave  
My feelings are a book refused to be opened  
Watching life go by  
My feelings are shot by police officers for listening to music  
My feelings are the darkness  
My feelings are a night without a moon  
My feelings are a piece of paper hidden  
Thrown away and crumbled up  
My feelings are bullied for being “different”  
My feelings is a bag playlist my feelings are dumped by it’s crush for loving her too much  
My feelings are the last pick in the NFL draft  
Then fired the next day for not having “potential”  
My feelings feel “why is it me”  
It drives to the empire state building  
It’s over  
But then  
Redirected by hope  
His crush comes back  
The paper is opened and loved by all  
He is drafted by another team and becomes the greatest of all time  
He is accepted by all  
The moon returns  
The book is opened and loved by all  
The bat comes out of the cave  
It was here my feelings realize he matters and...

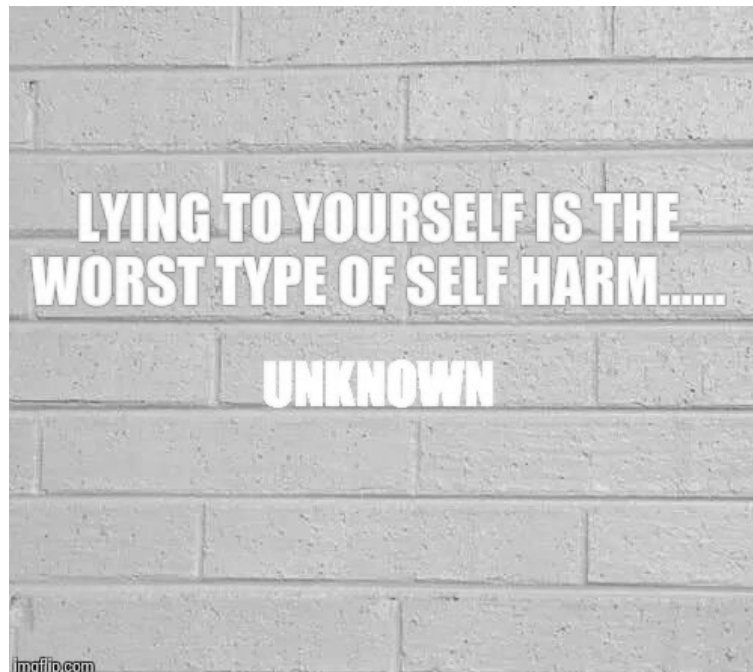
ALL FEELINGS MATTER

## **Lyin' To Myself**

I'm pretty sure you know that I'm **crazy**  
And you can't tame this kind of **mad**  
I tried so hard to be the one you **want**  
You try to break my walls, but they **come back**

You might have seen my *cry*  
I cry once, I cry *a thousand times*  
I'm **so done with the comments**  
I've seen **TOO** many say *goodbye*  
*Been there once, been there twice, been there a million times*

I'm bound by **GOLD** chains, but they make me feel *sane*  
They are the things that keep me **SAFE**  
I like **YOU as YOU**, so dare not change  
If you're mad, my *sincere apologies*  
But, could **YOU** be true to someone else  
If you can't stay true to **YOURSELF?**



## **The Pencil**

My pencil is useful for the words I make and it's colorful.  
It is helpful and small because it sharpens through hard times.  
The pencil is sharp and the color is dark.  
It can help me get through tough times.  
I use the pencil when it is needed.  
With the pencil I can write entertaining things.  
With the pencil I can achieve the things I want.  
The pencil has a dark end on the bottom.  
The other end is a light pink one.  
It can help you get rid of mistakes.  
I use my sharpener to make it sharp.  
You can create your imagination with the pencil.  
A pencil is used for a test and solves your problems.  
A pencil is great for your work.

## **Cell-phone**

It comes in two different colors  
White and greenish blue  
It's very entertaining  
When I have nothing to do  
I put it on the charger every single hour  
In my room  
It makes more than one sound when it's on  
It helps me if I'm in trouble or if I'm in a bubble  
It helps me learn new things  
So I think  
There are more than one in this world  
But, my own is the best even if it is a mess  
Anything I have in this world is  
less than the best

## **Self Portrait**

It's very small and hates cats  
It can be annoying especially when hungry  
It can be smart but also stupid  
It can be nice and rude  
It can be ruff but cuddly  
It is my dog

It needs a cut  
It has long hair  
It like my other dog  
It is active  
It is the best  
It is my dog

It smells like rotten eggs  
It's 3 years old  
Its birth date is May 20, 2014  
It's my small dog

## **Freedom!**

The American flag with stars and stripes  
Freedom is everyone being free to do anything they want!  
It's people coming to America to have a fresh start at life.  
Everyone should work together to make America truly Great again!  
People should make the world Great  
People should make each other's life great!

“Land of the Free and home of the brave.”  
Freedom is all wars ending.  
It's people being strong and brave but not in the fight way.  
True strength and bravery is people showing they care for one another.  
Freedom is an idea that won't come alive



## **Donald Trump**

I. This Country to me it's no longer important  
Donald Trump is currently in our Fortress  
Thank God Barack helped us bloom like a lotus

II. It don't matter, everything is going to be ok  
Barack fought for the freedom of blacks and gays  
Now yall say we gonna run for our lives just like a slave hearing they gonna get paid  
However, nothing is going to change, keep it like that.

II. If America stays intact  
And give our rights to the blacks  
Then we can all say, "Yea, 'Merica Did that."  
We have all of our resources  
We got all the guns  
But Donald Trump believes that this presidency is for fun cause at his inauguration people  
didn't hesitate to run.

III. However, Mike Pence is the Issue  
I cried so hard that I might need a tissue.  
But I got God so I don't believe in all that Fake  
Donald Trump better take a trip to Russia with his wife so they can go and Skate.

## Depression

Over the years I have been heartbroken, letdown, and a failure. Oh ooooh, trust issues. I thought you loved me. I guess it's for the best. Even though I love you and probably always never stop. But yet again I don't know if you'll ever forgive me for what I did. I'm hoping that you will. Even if we're friends that would be better than nothing. When you try your best but you don't succeed. But I never let that pull me down I just keep moving forward. My motto is "Always forward, forward always." Make the "impossible possible, make the possible impossible."



Free in a way  
Our hope will stay  
We will see God another day  
Blacks fighting for our rights  
Crying at night  
Don't ever say goodbye  
'Cause the freedom is mine

**But...**

Donald Trump is the president  
Still homeless not living in a apartment  
And all the money we have spent.  
All we can do is pray  
Hopefully we will see tomorrow  
But feeling sorrow  
Hiding in the shadow



## **Existential Crisis**

You're afraid of oblivion  
You're afraid of regret  
So you continue to cry in your bed  
About your existential dread

## **Future**

All these years have gone by  
It has gone as fast as a fly  
We worry that we're about to die  
All we need to do is survive

I am full of doubt  
During the day we're scouts  
This world is full of shame  
And it's always has been the same



Back in them old days  
Slaves had to work night and day for no pay  
Getting beat if they do the slightest thing wrong  
Swing low they were singing em church songs  
In the present day  
Black people still have to work but now for minimum wage  
People always on their phones on their facebook page  
Obesity still is a problem because we can't put down the lays  
Some people get rich from drawing art some people just trace  
In the future day  
Donald Trump going to be gone and we going have different ways  
robots going to be able to do whatever a humans says  
people are going to be bigger than a whale then set sail  
And YouTube is just going to be full of fails  
Corner stores are going to sell sandwiches with lots of mayo

## **Future Journey**

In the future, something wonderful might happen  
In the future my life will be paid in days

In the future I'm going to do my best  
I feel like I could fly to the west  
Looking away from all the pest  
In the future I will become the best  
And I will be better than all the  
Rest  
People don't have to be treated differently  
Because of their colored skin  
People need to be treated the way they want to be  
In there holy skin  
Thank god we have praise  
Now it's time for us to get raised



## **The Future...**

The Future would have Donald Trump but he belongs in the dump

People would fly just right above the sky

Endless light so all the roses could get right

All these years have gone by just like a fly

We wonder what's going to happen next

Would someone put us in check

We wonder would the world ever be the same again



## **Tomorrow**

All these years have gone by and all they brought was  
Sorrow, grief, and tears.

But, tomorrow the sun will hang up high  
And our heads will hang up high

Reach for the future, forget the past  
Just see what we've become

Just see what we've achieved  
But, tomorrow, it will be a different day.

Tomorrow the sun will hang up high,  
And our heads will hang up high.



## A Black Person's Life

### *Negative*

There was a time when there were slaves  
Who were treated wrong even when they behaved  
My ancestors were beaten, whipped and killed  
They became angered, soulless and people who had no will  
They didn't do anything wrong or bad  
But the Europeans and Salesmen were glad  
Because they would sell my people  
Like a common Colorado potato beetle

### *Positive*

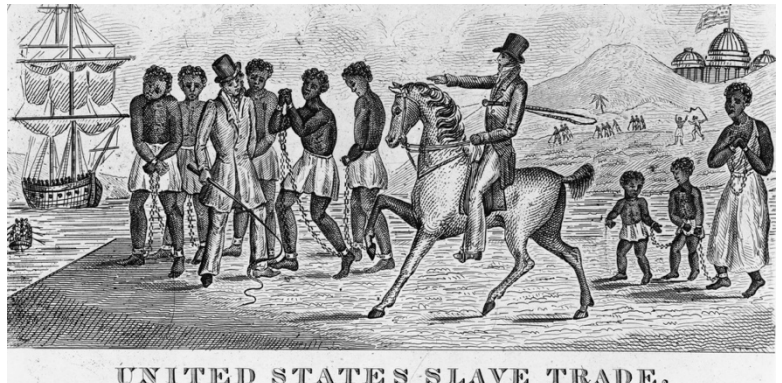
But look at us now  
We are strong and proud...oh wow  
We are free  
We can be who we want to be  
Although they still look down on us  
We will give them plenty more to discuss

### *Impossible*

Nowadays people still judge us for who we are  
Without even knowing we are not subpar  
So you may ask what we can do  
My answer would be "I don't have a clue"  
All we can do is what they say  
I wish they could be nice and come out to play  
We don't bite nor scratch  
We are actually a pretty good match.

### *Possible*

We may not be getting along right now  
But there is still plenty of hope to bestow  
Because the president we have today isn't so good  
We should live our life to the fullest with no falsehood  
We are going to make a change  
Even though some may think it's a bit strange  
That people like me  
Can change what America's future will be



## **Self Portrait as Book**

I am an open book.

I am a figure of my author's imagination or a special memory.

I am full of pages and pages of written adventure.

Thrilling, fun, freedom are printed on each page. I am unique.

My story is unlike any others.

I know the story that no one has heard, besides the characters that have experienced it.

I am the story that children will read when they have nothing else to do, but will start to become interested in my written reality.

A story that I'll never forget as long as children, teenagers, and adults keep reading it.

**“A Body Is...”**

A body is filled with emotions.  
Bent, worn out and broken.  
A body is filled with worry,  
When the world becomes blurry.  
I want to believe, soon I'll be  
Free. The air gets tight my head  
Becomes light.



## **I WAS BORN&CREATED!!!**

I was born in Vermont and then after my birth the doctor has gave me a bath and I went to sleep. After that day I didn't see my mom in a week or two.

## **New Year, New Me**

- I. The Future is Near  
Because there is a New Year.  
I see Cheer, Laughter  
And no Fear.  
Love is up above,  
Just like the doves.  
Lightness takes over the brightness.  
The Future is Near.
  
- II. The Future is Near  
As we grow fear,  
of the new president we hear.  
We fear of what,  
Mother nature has installed for here.  
Celebrities are nowhere near,  
as they are buried in their own fear.  
The Future is Near

## **Self-Portrait as a book**

I am purple and green, vibrant  
The words lay out on my skin.  
Your eyes on me, as they read along the lines.  
I am a book,  
the words that come out of my pages are stirring around in your brain.  
As you think of what I say, and leave you thinking.  
I am a book.....

### **In A Few Years**

We'd have better transportation  
There would be unpredictable styles of fashion  
Skyscrapers, everywhere you turn

In a few years,  
Robots will roam the city-  
Walking their robot pets  
Technology will be modernized

In a few years,  
My Chemical Romance will get back together  
Panic! At the Disco, Fall Out Boy, and My Chemical Romance will  
Play in concert together  
And we will rejoice in their holiness

### **Poetry is...**

Poetry is your emotions written on paper  
Poetry is made up of your sentimental feelings  
and how you express yourself  
It can be written many ways,  
since you're the poet

Poetry is your imagination running wild  
Poetry can be colors  
Poetry is made up of thoughts that surround your head  
Poetry can be anything if you put your mind to it

You can make poetry with anything that  
comes from your mind  
Poetry takes you imagination, and describes it in words  
It can relieve your brain  
And reading it can help you organize your thoughts

Poetry is anything

## **Puzzle Piece**

Poetry is like a puzzle, it may be hard  
But fun to do  
Life is a puzzle as well  
It's hard but you have fun times  
As you continue in life  
You complete your puzzle  
If you die in doubt or  
Still attached  
You haven't completed your life puzzle  
When you're born  
You open the box to your life puzzle  
Life from beginning to end is a puzzle

## **Teddy**

Waiting on a store shelf  
To catch someone's eye  
A child, a collector, someone at all  
I watch as parties happen  
And I sit here the same  
She walks up to me, joy in her eyes  
I hope it's me and not my friends close by  
She seems really nice  
A cute little girl  
I hope she chooses me  
Brings me to life  
It's me she chose  
Put a heart in me  
Put a wish in my soul  
She hugs and squeezes me oh so tight  
"Daddy I did it!" she screams with joy  
"Can we get clothes too?"  
"Whatever you like." He's a good man  
She takes me home  
And lays me in her bed  
My home forever  
Watching her life unfold  
My sweet girl  
Saved me  
And I'll stay forever



## **Unicorns!**

Unicorns are colorful  
They are soft, pretty, and wonderful  
They are one of a kind

Unicorns are peaceful  
They give you peace in the mind  
They make your day peaceful

Unicorns are fluffy  
Fluffy just like the unicorn from Despicable Me “It’s so fluffy”

Unicorns are real  
They are everywhere  
They are costumes, in photos, in pictures

Unicorns come in colors  
They are little and big

Unicorns Are Pretty, Peaceful and colorful

## **Sign Language**

It’s full of gossip, that’s all they know  
On the train where ever they go, people talk, but they don’t know  
Talking but not speaking, when you see them don’t speak, use your hands to communicate

I am spoken through hands  
I am used to be spoken through the Deaf  
I help the Deaf communicate  
I am a language that is not spoken through the mouth  
I am not a typical language  
I am Rare and Unique

## **Beyond My Years**

Not a soul, not a hole  
But a big melting bowl  
We live in a world cruel and mean  
Where we all know the grass isn't green

Cranes in the sky, that's what the song says  
Flying like a fly, that'll be us  
One day...

## **I Was Born**

I was born into this world  
That everybody love so much  
I was born in a country called Guyana  
Where I was carried into my mother's arms  
I was born in a hospital  
Where not many of my family was  
Which made me wonder why  
I was born in a very free place  
Where anyone did what they want  
I was born in a good home while  
Others were poor  
I was born were they took eggshells and pretend that they were seashells on the beach.  
I was born were people looked into mirrors and saw the horror that's within themselves and wonder why.

## **A Poem is**

A poem is an art work that's never done  
The line the creativity and the color  
A poem is an artwork that's never done  
You can add more, even when you think it's done  
A poem is an artwork that's never done  
It's all around you, you might not see it or notice it  
But it's still there.  
You live, breath it and even eat it.

Kisameh

To: MS. Erika

From: Mr. Poem  
Eshonzi-waache



I'm a hero  
not for fun like my  
brother Saikuma, i'm a  
hero to protect.

## **I Was Born**

=I was born  
Like a new baby bird  
So small  
So fragile

---

=I was born  
Tweeting a song  
All daylong  
Trying to find a place where I belong

---

=I was born  
Did you know I can dance?  
Did you know that I prance?  
From a long black stage  
That a human made

---

=I was born  
All grown up  
Playing many sports  
Math and science  
After the lord

---

=I was born  
outside of school  
I may be cool  
Not cruel  
But you will never know  
Cuz I'll never show  
=I was born

## For Years to Come

In 300 years

My peers will die

And I won't cry

There will be no care

No missing you dare

Cause ill meet you up there

In 300 years

When I'm laying on clouds

And I meet my birth once again

The love in my heart will soon again start

When she holds me in her hands

In 300 years

A new generation will thrive

Thinking of the future

One in disguise

## Years

The year that had passed  
Has been a year of heartbreak  
And shock for the things that  
May happen to minorities  
The year where all hope has been lost  
Even when the people we trust  
are telling us to hold on  
The year where people don't know what to do  
Because devastation has flown through  
The year when we got knocked off our feet  
And couldn't get back up due to defeat

The year that we are in now  
Is the year where we look forward  
To better things  
The year where people unite  
Because they believe in what's right  
The year where we rekindle our hope and trust  
Because better things are yet to come

In the years that are yet to come  
I will fly away to a better place  
For I am through troubles and disgrace  
There will be people who stand with me  
And in the years that are yet to come  
I will learn something new  
That we need to fall apart  
So that we can be united at last.



## Skittles

I am a very sweet and sour flavor  
I am very fruity  
I am different colors like the rainbow  
I have a very tangy flavor  
That makes people feel like there in heaven

## **The Words of the Heart**

A poem is the word of the heart leaking onto the paper  
The paper which then tells a story that none have known.

A poem shows all feelings  
Happy, sad, mad, or even scared  
Trapped up in your heart until it finally leaks on to a paper.

Words so deep  
When written you might even feel free  
But your heart is the only one capable of telling the story  
A poem can force others to see  
A story your heart has told  
For a poem is the words of the heart.

## **The Future lives to tell**

Darkness takes over the newfound daylight  
Darkness confuses people's left from their right  
With a president forged from evil  
Evil thoughts to lead the people  
Faces marked from racism and hatred  
Exactly what ruins nations  
Nothing remains sacred

In the future those that hold knowledge will profit, prosper  
And reconquer  
Take over a kingdom shining light  
To show the others what's right  
And as I become old  
I am proud of a story of my life that could be told

As I fell  
My father helps me get back up  
Back to his kingdom with nothing to worry about  
Everyone remains happy  
No one's mood is crappy  
No one sad not even mad  
For this kingdom is for good not bad  
There's people flying, laughing  
Everywhere people dancing  
Everyone is holy oh moly  
I rest my case  
I am at my final resting place

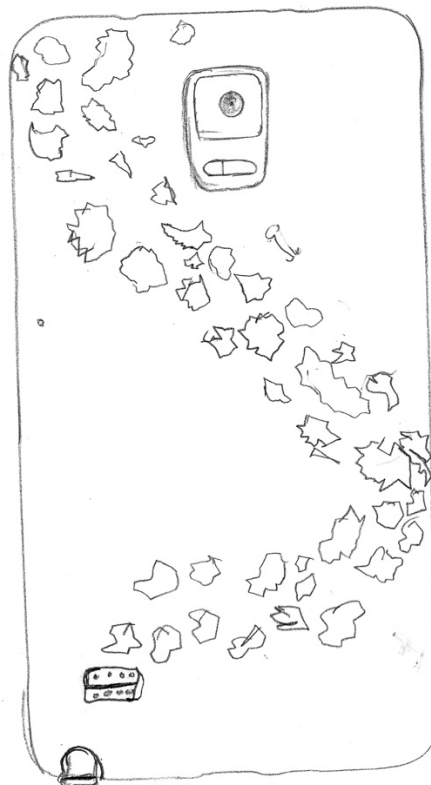


## Self Portrait as a Phone

Invented to bring people together,  
The www. does not make me but I made it Famous,  
You may be social but I made the media,  
They call me “hotspot” and it makes me feel like ringing,

I can be diversified, a different shape, a different size,  
I hate wearing the same outfit everyday it makes me feel so uniformed,  
I feel disabled not being able to walk by myself,  
When people push my buttons that’s a real turn off,  
They poke me and drop me and scratch my face,  
And if they don’t treat me right I’ll help them discover a new virus every day,

But I’m ok people admire my face,  
I’m not a baby, I have no birthdate,  
But every time you restart me I feel like I was given life once again,  
We can chat or do some serious work,  
Or if I’m in a good mood, we can just play.

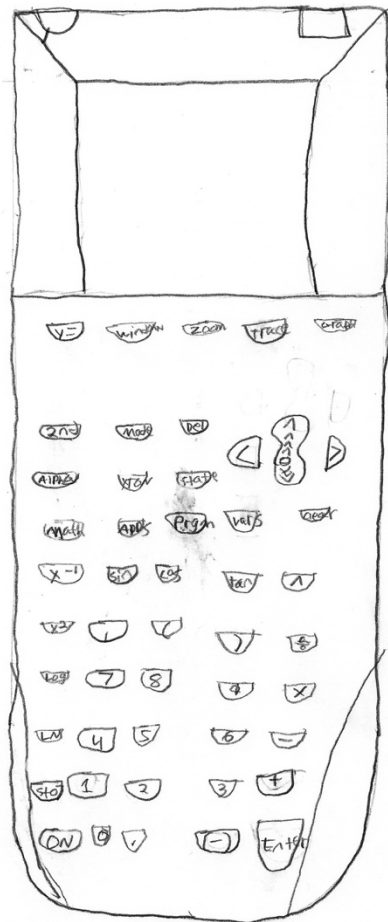


## Beyond The Years

1. The day will come when the young generation will be the old generation  
The day will come when the new technology will be old  
And the newer generation will be formed
2. The day will come when the country is in ruin  
The day will come when the president will make a horrible decision  
And the world will come to an end
3. The day will come when I am an old man watching over the next generation  
The day will come when the popular topics will die out  
The day might come and I'll have super powers  
Or the day might come when my time is up

## Self Portrait As Calculator

My Skin color is Black and my personality is useful  
My race is an electronic and my location is in stores  
My life is a battery but that makes me heavy  
And if I am not charged I will die  
Charging me takes a while, but when I'm charged up I do  
more calculations than the human brain does  
If the human using me uses me properly, then their life  
will go by very easily  
I have buttons that you have to press  
But if you press the wrong one then your life will be under  
stress  
You can't eat or drink near me  
Or I will be done completely



## She!!!!

She is like an angel that fell from heaven  
Her smile brightens up the room  
Her eyes are amazing  
She's amazing just the way she is  
Her lips I could kiss them all day  
She's so beautiful  
She makes me feel like I am found  
She fills in the hole in my heart  
Her laugh is nice  
Her attitude is amazing  
She's so gorgeous  
She makes me happy just talking to her  
Every time I see her she brings a smile to my face  
She brightens up my life  
She's more beautiful than the sunset  
She's better than anyone out there  
But she will never be mine  
But that won't stop me from trying  
If I try I might just succeed.

## No! Why?

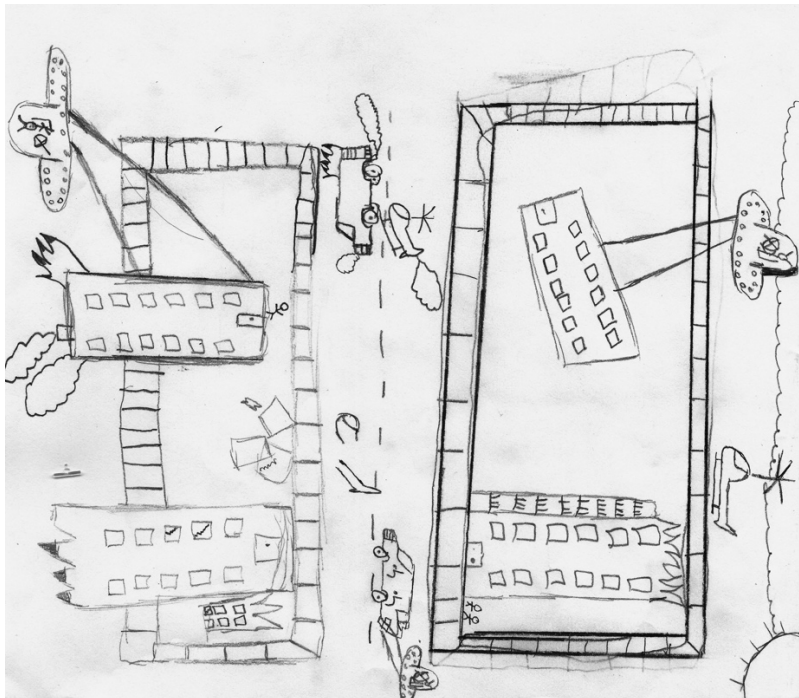
Buildings from high in the sky  
Fall upon us and rise  
With a shuttle in the sky  
Holding it really tight

With water flowing through the streets  
And the sun bringing too much heat  
Not an animal in the clouds  
All you hear is people being too loud

But helicopters flying  
People trying to lie  
Saying safety is on the other side  
The people just run and hide

With lions in houses  
And people not finding their trousers  
With planes crashing to the floor  
And the lord speaking loud

Crying and screaming  
But my child is saying is this the end?  
I tell him just defend  
Cause Donald's trouble is our end.



I am what everyone needs. What people want and use. I am needed everywhere and for everything. I am like a person job if they lose it they have nothing. I am needed for you to call to talk to and to vibe out. All you need is one catastrophe in your life to realize you've wasted your time on me.

## **Poetry is everywhere**

Poetry is everywhere. Poetry can be whoever whatever it wants to be.

Poetry flows as fast as the  
Mediterranean Sea.

Wait and see poetry will began to flee.



10 years from now I will be the richest man in the world I will have a mansion I have every game system and all the games with it I am president of the United States I have stop the fights between blacks and white everyone loves me

### **“Arriving”**

I was born on a hot summer day  
Surrounded by tall building and businesses  
Where you could hear the busy streets  
And a lot of movement going on  
The aroma of many food carts

Here I am in Manhattan  
Where there are many people walking by  
And taxis passing by  
Many shops and brands all around  
All you can do is explore

The night taking over  
Many lights around  
Becoming colorful  
Loud footsteps and cars  
Born on a Wednesday  
Around 8:24 P.M.

I have arrived into this world  
Given my name  
Just starting life  
With much more to discover  
I am a Manhattan city girl

## A Baby

Once given to my mother, i Supposedly look like a Lightskin potato  
i was squished and very small in the face to my mother  
but it wasn't a bother to my father  
Once all cleaned, I was reunited with my beautiful mom  
and finally (thank god) my vision cleared up out of a foggy fog  
i got to see my wonderful parents  
hopefully the baby stores would go on clearance  
After foot-printing my little feet  
they carried me out in my new car seat  
we drove on home and i was hoping to my crib  
but i ended up with a bib  
my alarm went off, and i started to cry  
my dad picked me up suddenly and i started to fly  
with the bald eagle, up high, in the sky  
He put me down on something soft and i felt tired  
so i went to sleep



## **Self Portrait**

Black, Green, Yellow are the colors  
Triangles and a X which pirates may  
Think that X marks the spot

Well, it does, somewhere, my father is from  
Somewhere that the way they speak isn't really  
Understandable

Somewhere that if you go, you might  
Fall in love with it

Somewhere I wish I can see  
Somewhere I wish I can be  
With my best friends and me

Somewhere that 45% defines me  
Somewhere that the fish is clean  
And cooked fresh from the sea

### **Self portrait as a washing machine**

I come in black silver and white  
I wash dark clothes and light  
I use electricity to charge  
When washing a big load  
I wash and wash in the sun  
I wash and wash the day is done  
I wash and wash and wash all night  
I wash in even daring plight  
I wash until we come to light  
And when the day is done  
I'll have washed all but one

## **The Year Might Come**

The year might come, the year might not  
The dead may live again, you never know what's going to  
happen in the end.  
Someone might come for the world and peace may lay or  
Maybe the total opposite might happen if there's a  
judgment day.

The word on the street is an alien invasion might come  
There's going to be chaos with children screaming for  
their mums.  
Technology might take over with humans no longer in  
control, imagine something we made starts to rule us  
when we get old.  
Will all illegal acts be legal again, and would there be one  
night where people go purging for all their enemies that  
bullied them back then.

That might not happen, there could be pretty smiles  
No scars on our face and we'll have a big mansion to  
call our place.  
We don't know what the future might bring us, but we'll  
know one day.  
All we have to do is hope and pray.

Some days worn  
Some days not  
Depends on others  
I'm jumping and flying  
At the same time  
Red like wine  
Black like night  
And white writing  
That spells out  
FLIGHT  
Turn me around  
There is a strap  
Oh of course  
I'm a snapback  
Like I said  
I'm red and black  
Another hat tossed on the stack  
Under me is another  
Midnight blue  
Sunset orange  
I do not worry  
There is no competition  
So when I go out for a bash  
All I have to remember is  
The Knicks are trash...

## **The Gold Nugget**

Not to early and not too late  
But it was in the morning around 9:38  
Spraygrounds are cool  
Whoever don't have 'em is a fool  
Serena's my best friend  
She always lends me pens  
Apes shouldn't be released  
While I Rest In Peace  
Year of 2003  
Graduating class  
of 2017  
No more starving and dirty  
Wonder what life would be like when I'm 30  
Probably be soaring cars  
People living up by the stars  
I have brown hair in sunlight  
But black hair in nightlight  
It's hot inside  
But could inside  
M binder is two inches wide  
Nathalia is the best  
Better than all the rest  
Except for me  
Why can't y'all see  
Dantea is making jokes  
While Brianna is hitting the folks

I am used to play all day  
Black Ops 3 and GTA  
Getting turned on and off  
That's what I do  
My owner bought the whole crew  
PSP PSVita you already know  
He almost forgot to get a gold controller though  
It's ok It's ok  
At least he didn't get an Xbox anyway  
What else is there to say  
He better get on and play

## Beyond the future

Beyond the future, there will be pain, destruction, and  
sorrow and a bit of happiness. Beyond the future,  
there will be fire coming out of the  
sky, people holding their trumpets in fear.  
People coming to church and asking for  
forgiveness. Evil angels laughing maniacally saying  
“Now you're mine” Most people who done  
wrong crying and confused asking why?  
lord why? when being judged. Everyone  
feeling sorry and sad for what had happened  
to their loved ones and friends.

After all of the destruction a new will  
come and a new type of humans more like  
aliens will come and create. a new world  
with happiness, singing, dancing rejoicing and etc.

A day where people will get along with each  
other better, a world where we minorities  
could forget all of the pain and suffering  
and just get along. Finally, a world where  
we could just pray to our heavenly father  
in peace. Without any caution, interference, and  
any type of fights and destruction ever happening. A  
place that's home.

Fin

## **Where The Future May Be**

To the death of many  
Where tears of legends reap  
Where death touches upon the people of the year  
Where love ones no longer come

Hopefully again the lives of the people who have gone  
In a world where the tears of death no longer must touch skin  
In a world where hatred no longer breaks the ties of family  
In a world where peace may come to make a collage of races  
In a world where hatred may seize to exist

To come a time where we don't hate



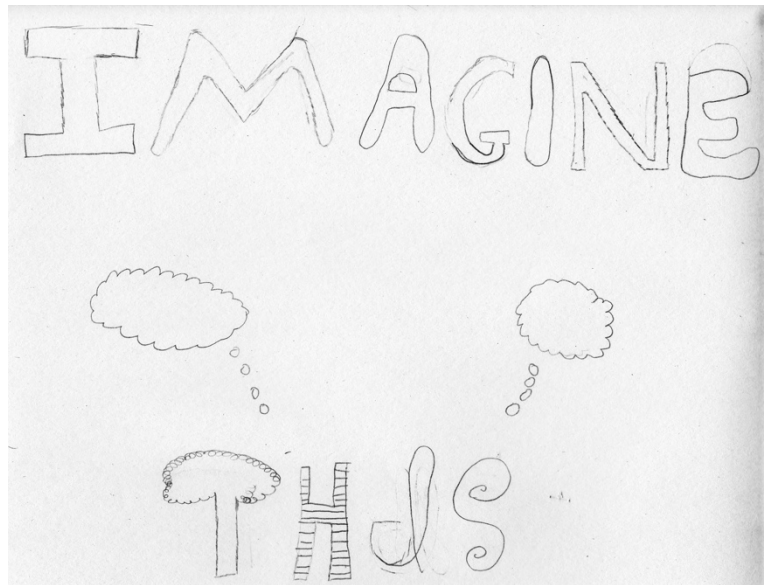
## Imagine this

Imagine this  
People crying out in the streets with no where to go  
Imagine this  
No santa to say ho, ho, ho, ho  
Imagine this  
Mother losing daughter, father losing son  
Imagine this  
In a world with no fun

Imagine this  
Floating ice creams screaming the words I scream you scream we all scream for ice cream  
Imagine this  
The world split in two  
Imagine this  
Aliens as our prey saying boo hoo  
Imagine this  
Ashley wondering... dun stole her lunch

Imagine this  
Chicken eating us  
Imagine this  
No yellow cheese bus  
Imagine this  
A world without a sky  
Imagine this

Imagine this  
No school at all  
Imagine this  
Just a bunch of empty halls  
Free Burger King on Wednesday  
Imagine this  
People not being able to say what they want to say  
Imagine this  
Imagine me telling this story over & over  
Imagine this  
Imagine me overcoming the worst disaster... ever  
Imagine this  
3000 years later.....



### **New Look Into 2017**

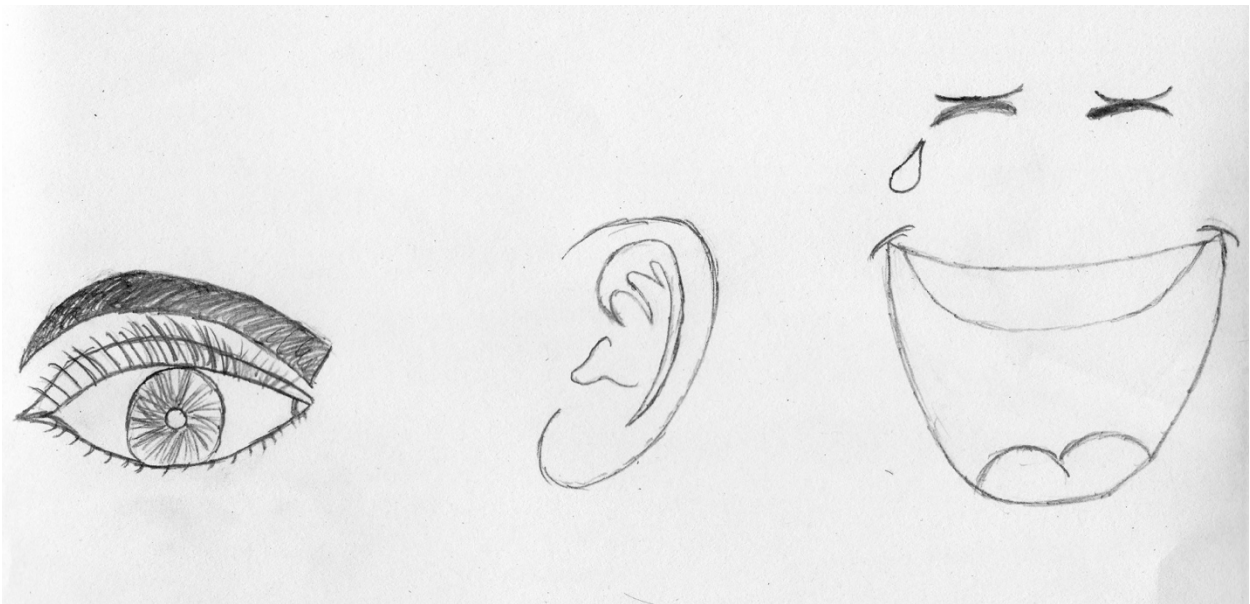
Omg can't you see it's 2017 and we're still not free.  
We just need time, time is all we got.  
It will move on without you weather you like it or not.  
There are still African American children getting shot.  
They say it will get better but I don't see improvement.  
Get out take a stand and join the movement.  
R.I.P 2016 I give you my condolence.  
Use the bad times as a notion to keep going.

## I Hear

In the future, where cars shall fly  
For us to watch no one else die  
I hear the laughter and see the joy  
Until one day everybody was torn  
In this world people wanna take it all away  
Now everything has changed

I hear the tears and see the sorrow  
Why cant you keep the darkness to yourself  
And wait till tomorrow  
Don't spread it with the world  
You are making it really really cold  
This world can either rejoice or something worse  
Let the truth be told

I hear the stress  
And people hoping for the best  
The world can be in danger  
He doesn't even major  
Let the truth be told  
The world is getting so so cold  
Life must go on.....



## **The Future of 2017**

With Obama no longer about to be president,  
Our future doesn't look to be shining bright.  
Donald Trump seems to be coming and  
Taking all the light.

The darkness will clear, and everyone  
Will stand together against any hate.  
The Black Lives Matter movement will  
Surely keep us standing with each other  
At this rate.

Hopefully by the end of the year, we will  
All come together, black, white, Asian, etc.  
and get over our differences. Yet, there will always be someone who will refuse to come together,  
And that's what tears us apart.

**We are not who we say we are**

Some hands collide together in peace, but others rip apart intensely.  
Days and days have passed on by but others can't seem to look beyond the light.  
Years and years have beat us down but we still find a way out of the ground.  
Decades and decades have passed us by but we still made it out of the fire alive.  
One day we will all come together to beat this energy holding us back.  
It can be today, tomorrow, or next year.  
We never know but coming together is what we know for sure.  
Sometimes we have to lose the small fights to win the war.

## **After These Seconds**

At this second robberies, murders, and rapes  
At this second laughter, playing, and eating  
At this second hunger, poverty, and homelessness  
At this second births, education, and jokes  
At this second diseases, gun violence, and abuse  
At this second doctors, teachers, and engineers

After these seconds cures, wealth, and peace  
After these seconds self-driving cars, snow in the  
summer, and flying humans  
After these seconds the end of global warming,  
upgraded education, and equality  
After these seconds happiness, the end of cancer  
and terrorists

After this second, there are these seconds....

**“SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE”**

SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can go to the store to get skittles in peace  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can sell my CDS in front of a store in peace  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I win the T.V. SHOW “The Voice”  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can walk down the streets of East Flatbush and see my name as one of the streets  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can read little kids some poems that I published and watching Ms. Erika smiling at me  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can see all people of different races, beliefs etc. holding hands and hugging  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I can record my first Album and hit number one on the charts  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I graduate from College and seeing my families proud faces in the audience  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where my mom dies and my whole day is filled with sadness and sorrow  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE  
Where I’m on Broadway singing, dancing and hopping  
SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FUTURE.....

## **Way Beyond the Years**

Way beyond the years we might find peace  
We might fulfill Martin Luther's dream,  
We might not ever have to grieve  
But don't hold your breath in 2017  
There'll be more drama, more stupid trends  
More dead bodies on the news again  
Less people concerned about staying alive  
And more obsessing over Kardashians

More countless robbers with a lot of loot  
More home invasions where they get the boot  
Less Unity in the community and  
WAY MORE "hands up don't shoot"  
More trash rappers sitting in the booth  
More companies that corrupt the youth  
More fake religious people always at  
The club asking hmm What Would Jesus Do

Maybe one day we could finally fly  
Maybe no one in my family would die  
Maybe I'd never have to break down and cry  
Maybe in the future somewhere in the future,

I could finally let go of what's already left behind