

May My Heart Be Strong



An Anthology of Sixth-Grade Student Writing
IS 187-Hudson Cliffs
New York, New York
Cynthia Chory, Principal
Nilda Marrero, Assistant Principal
Catherine Linehan and Melissa Velasco, Teachers
David Surface, Writer-in-Residence
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Foreword

Welcome to *May My Heart Be Strong*, an anthology of writing by the sixth- and seventh-grade students of IS 187-Hudson Cliffs School in Manhattan. It was completed during a ten-week residency from December of 2016 through February of 2017 for Teachers & Writers Collaborative.

In Ms. Linehan's classroom, we used ancient Egyptian poetry to help students write their own poems to get in touch with the way that ancient Egyptians thought and felt. We started with questions: *Ancient Egyptians depended on the Nile and praised its power—what do you depend on and find worthy of praise? Ancient Egyptians wanted to have everything they needed to live a good life, both here and in the afterlife—what do you need to realize your goals and be happy?* The poems that the students wrote to answer these timeless questions are sometimes funny, sometimes moving, often both.

In Ms. Velasco's classroom, our goal was to use creative writing techniques to deepen the students' understanding of the first Ten Amendments to the Constitution. We showed them photographs of political rallies and protests from around the world, encouraged them to identify with one person in the picture, then asked them, *This person in the photograph—what do they see? What do they hear? What are they afraid of? What do they want? And why do they want it?* The students then crafted their answers into brief monologues that show how powerful curiosity and empathy can be in deepening our understanding of others.

My thanks to Cynthia Chory, principal of IS 187, and to Assistant Principal Nilda Marrero for their support for this project. A special thanks to Parent Coordinator Isabelle Eaton for her enthusiasm and positivity in making this program possible.

My thanks especially to Catherine Linehan, seventh-grade teacher at IS 187, and to Melisa Velasco, sixth- and seventh-grade teacher at IS 187, for being strong and supportive partners in the classroom.

Finally, a big thank you to the students of IS 187 for all your creativity and compassion that went into the writing of these poems. This book is for you.

David Surface
Writer-in-Residence
Teachers & Writers Collaborative

Class 6-409

Ms. Linehan





The Palace of Love

Julia Barg

May I be able to see people's true feelings.
May I have water, coffee, and root beer.
May I have chocolate, salad, and chicken.
May I have my phone, and unlimited flowers.
May I return to Kentucky with the kangaroos,
May I return to the sunny and peaceful beach.
May I return to Economy Candy.

May I have the eyes of an owl.
May I have legs to boost me up in the air while skating.
May I have a brain that remembers everything.

Please don't let me fail a test.
Please don't let me lose my integrity.
May I come to peace with myself.
May I arrive at the palace of love.

My Portal of Freedom

Julius Aponte

May I be able to look at Earth's every city
from my own perspective
May I be able to eat every lasagna
from every country and city
May I have a PlayStation to entertain me
when I have a bad day
May I have a meatball sandwich, a KFC bucket,
and a nice bean-bag chair
May I return to my home eating chips all day long

May I come back to earth, making my family happy
May I have a fat belly to crush anyone who makes fun of me
May I have an Afro so I can look ridiculous in front of my friends
Please don't let people take my food

May I arrive at my portal of freedom

The Place of Hope

Mexx Borjas

May I be able to see the world
in just one leap.
May I have water, Kryptonian DNA,
and the bright yellow sun.
May I return to the home
where I lived happily with my family.
May I have a heart that never gives up

Please don't let fear fall upon humans
and kill dreams.

May I arrive at the place of hope.

The Place of Happiness

Pressly Delacruz

May I be able to travel back in time
and never come back.
May I have Dominos for the rest of my life
and eat nothing else.
May I return to my happy place in the Bahamas
in just a blink of an eye.
May I have a phone that stays on 100%
forever.
Please don't let me pay for Netflix.
May I arrive at the place of happiness.

The End of the Circle

Owen Delany

May I be able to keep my family alive and well for as long as they want. May I have enough food for the hungry to feed them for the rest of their lives. May I have endless Mexican food, Italian food, and ice cream along with creme soda, root beer, and ginger ale. May I have all of the Dave Matthews Band, Michael Jackson, and Fitz and the Tantrums, the music I desire.

May I return to my old home and see what it is like now. May I return to some of the happiest moments of my life. May I relive my life through the lens of the present.

May I have my right arm remade out of metal and my feet replaced with rocket feet to make me fly.

Please don't let my life end in a horrible way, and don't let anything happen to my family.

May I arrive at where I began, at the end of the circle.

The Place Where My Sister Is

Lily Dodson

May I be able to see the world in one plane ride. May I have pasta, pizza, and the Eiffel Tower, baguettes, paninis, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. May I return to Paris, France,

or Rome, Italy. May I have legs that can travel the world without riding one airplane. Please don't let anything happen to my family. May I arrive at the place where my sister is.

On With My Life

Jasmin Dotel

May I be able to drink Starbucks every day of my life. May I have five trillion Starbucks gift cards. May I have Chinese food, ice tea, lemonade, and Spanish food. May I have a sleepover with my friends every day. May I return to Disney World and dance in the Pranda again with my friends. May I have those feet that can dance better than I can. Please don't let me have a little brother or a sister. May I arrive at that home in that state and live on with my life.

A Happy Life

Daniel Escoto

May I be able to hit the ball so hard
that it will go across the border.
May I have all the Jordans I ever wanted.
May I return to the Dominican Republic
to visit my grandfather.
May I have legs that can run so fast
that I could go across the world in just one minute.
Please don't let me die as a nobody
but as a somebody.
May I arrive back when everyone was happy
and nothing bad happened.
May I live a happy life.

The World of Peace

Layla Fitz

May I have the power to grow money on trees
so I can live in a mansion and at Starbucks.

May I have the names of the Starbucks drinks.

May I have the names of those people who bully me.
May I be surrounded by bodyguards.

May I return to my mansion where I have everything.
May I return to my family so I can spend more time with them.

May I have legs like the Flash so I can run faster than anybody.
May I have a brain that can answer all the problems in the world.

Please do not let my family pass away. Give them strength.
Please do not let me fail grades in my classes.

Finally, may I arrive in the world of peace!

No Fear

Jack Goss

May I travel the world and be in every place,
see every person, and meet them face to face.

May I have Coco Puffs, waffles, and Lucky Charms,
orange juice, apple cider, and drinks that cause no harm,
roses, family, and a nice country farm.

May I return to Scotland where all my family is
and see them for the first time in years.
May I see what life was like when I was little.

May I be the best soccer player in the world
and make a new move, called "Get Swirled."

A world where I have a lot of fame
and a world with over one hundred million dollars to my name.

Please don't let the world die in fear.
Try to imagine that no fear is near.

Through Dark Places

Sabrina Herrera

May I be able to get out of my room and be the most amazing person.
May I have Starbucks.
May I have Hot Cheetos.
May I have beautiful red roses.
May I have a golden door knob.
May I have a threshold.
Finally, may I have a room.
May I return to the hospital.
May I return to my younger self.
May I have a clean heart that cares for everybody.
May I have perfect vision that can guide me through dark places.
May I have the most perfect handwriting that can make people say, "Wow."
Please don't let me do drugs.
Please don't let others hurt me in any kind of way.

Around the World

Hailey Hilario

May I be able to fly all around the world and visit every country, state, city, and place.
May I have pizza and grilled cheese. May I have orange juice and fruit punch. May I have my Mom's drawing technique. May I return to my first birthday when everyone was dressed as princesses. May I have a brain that can remember anything from when I was born to right now. Please don't let me die in my mother's arms. May I arrive at my kitchen where I get my food and drinks.

The Palace of Literature

Susannah Hurlbut-Noonan

May I travel around the world and read all books from all different countries in all different languages.
May you bring me steak, sushi, Mash, lemonade, a thousand books, unlimited data and internet.
Allow me to return to all of my old bookshelves.
May I return to Economy Candy and raid the store.
May I go to my friends' houses where I loved to hang out

and steal back the books I lent them.
Allow my hand muscles to strengthen so I may write
and turn the pages all day long.
May I have a mouth that can recite all the state's capitols.
Please don't let me read baby books.
Please don't let me visit World War Two in my dreams.
Allow me to arrive at the Strand Bookstore,
the palace of literature.

In the Blink of An Eye

Ray Hungria

May I be able to have everything I want in the blink of an eye.
May I have the ability to run at incredible speeds.
May I have a brain that can control people and read minds.
Please don't let anything happen to my family.
May I arrive at my house.

The Tree of Life

Jacob Layana

May I be able to live underwater and explore the deep seas.
May I have gills, flippers, and an underwater base.
May I return to the tree of life
where all sea creatures thrive.
May I have a trident that can burst out bolts of lightning.
Please don't let the gods ban me from the ocean.
May I arrive at the beach where I first swam.

Eternity Has Brown Hair

Ranny Lopez

Eternity has brown hair.
Eternity has blue eyes.
Eternity lives in Miami,
321 West 114th Street,

Apt 77.

I hear Suicide Squad music,
and I see a sign that says,
“Welcome To Your New House.”

What Makes You Love Nature

Evan Monge

Eternity is a six-year-old boy.
His hair is as brown as autumn leaves.
His eyes are turquoise and clear like ice.
He lives in a landscape full of grass and water.
He lives in the open.
Where he lives, you see a sign of peacefulness.
He likes the sound of the fast winds.
His father is Nature.
They get along because they enjoy the same things.
If I see him, I would ask him
What makes you love nature so much?

In Death's Building

Jayden Montalvo

Death is a female. Death's age is a mystery. She's been living for a long time but looks very young. Death's hair color is pitch black; it's as dark as the night. Death's eye color is all white; nobody knows why. Death lives in the lower east side in the projects. When you enter Death's building, it is very dark. There are always bad people in front of her building. When you enter her apartment, there is no light. When you open any door, it creaks. All the walls are painted black, and it smells like the stench of death and dead rats. Once you step on the floor, there's blood on your foot. The type of music Death listens to is music like *Tip Toe Through the Garden*, very creepy music. The father of Death is Satan. She's not proud of it, but she's just like him. Death doesn't get along with her father because he made her the person she is today, and she's not proud of herself. If you ever see Death coming, run!

Eyes That Can See

Madison Naranjo

May I be able to speak out and know more knowledge.
May I have strong espresso from Starbucks to wake me up when I need to.
May I have chips and food to survive the day.
May I have three beautiful puppies so I can be more responsible.
May I return to my beautiful childhood.
May I return to the mistakes I really screwed up, so I can fix them.
May I have a brain that can remember every book I ever read.
May I have a brain that can remember everything that happened
right through my eyes.
May I have eyes that can see twenty miles away.
Please don't leave me dull.
May I arrive at the perfect person of me.

Eternity Lives Everywhere

Nelson Olivo

Eternity is not male or female.
Eternity is as old as the earth.
Eternity has gold hair and gold eyes.
Eternity lives everywhere.
Eternity has a circle house.
When I go inside, I see money.
Eternity listens to rap music.
Eternity thinks that it's 'lit'.
I am Eternity's father.
We get along because we love each other.
If I see Eternity coming
I will hug it.

All the Best Days of My Life

Carla Puello

May I be able to turn into a guardian angel and help people on earth.
May I have beautiful gold hair and big soft wings.

May I return to my family on earth.
May I have eyes that can see from far away
and a beautiful flower-crown collection.
Please don't let animals or all the good people get hurt or killed.
May I arrive to all the best days of my life,
and the day I was born back in 2005.

An Angel That Can Tell

Edgar Rodriguez

May I be able to watch over people like angels, travel, see mountains.

In order to do these things, may I have water from the river
and a sandwich on the beach, watching the sunset.

May I return to the house that my grandparents bought in 1946
with no technology
listening to the hummingbirds.

May I have an angel who can tell what's happening in the future
and how my grandparents are.

May I arrive at the mother of nature, smell the trees and animals,
and rest.

Eternity Has Red Hair

Kaycee Rodriguez

Eternity is a female
She looks twenty, but she's as old as the dinosaurs.
Eternity has red hair and light blue eyes.
She lives in one of her mansions in Paris
with Cupid as her crush,
a red velvet couch and red wood walls.
Her father is the Devil.
They don't get along; their choices are different.
People come to her for advice, and ask,
"What should I do?"

Death Is a Male

Liana Ruiz

Death is a male.
He is older than time but has eternal youth.
He has blue hair and red eyes.
Death lives in Sleepy Hollow
in a building on the 13th floor.
I paid him a visit. I walked in and saw a portal
and smelled a never-ending stench of death.
I saw the trapped souls in his mirror.
The light was nothing but a flickering flame.
He likes "The Monster Mash" and "Thriller",
His father is the Devil himself.

Protection

Arieta Salovic

May I be able to help the poor.
May I be able to stop gun violence.
May I have chicken wings.
May I have Pepsi with my chicken wings.
May I have ice cream from McDonalds.
May I have all the water I need.
May I have Takis.
May I return to Florida with the beautiful yellow sun.
May I return to Virginia Beach with the hot sand.
May I return to Chicago to see my cousins.
May I have a smarter brain
that can so four tasks at a time.
May I have a better voice that is lighter.
Please don't let somebody hurt me.
Please don't let my brother mess up my room.
Please have protection over me.
May I arrive at a castle.

Make My Day

Julian Sandoval

Hail to you, Galaxy 5 phone
who comes from the mighty Samsung Company.
If you go away, I wouldn't be the same.
When you are here, I feel that the holy spirits blessed me.
Only you can bring lightness to my day.
Others cannot take the same pictures as you.
Come here, make my day.
Maybe you'll be
my sun ray.

The Power

Samuel Santana

I see a demon trying to kill me.
I may be able to fight him.
But I couldn't fight him; he was very strong.
But I hear his heart, saying, "Help me escape from this body."
I remember that one person is stronger than another
and then I had the power to destroy him.

Where I Have Never Been

Lynette Sarraff

May I be able to eat a lot of Takis and ice cream.
May I have every Jordans and watch a lot of SpongeBob.
May I return to Boston where I can do whatever I want.
May I have a nose-piercing when when I am thirteen.
Please don't let it be cold outside.
May I arrive at the Dominican Republic
where I have never been.

And Live As I Wish

David Schagun

May I be able to explore and live freely.

May I be able to be free to get the resources I need;
the red roses, the bread, chicken, and pizza, if I can.

May I return to the world where I live.
There is no other place that I will call home.
It is where I stand today.

May my eyes guide me to the path.
I need my eyes to make me see today and tomorrow.
Let me have legs to walk on this planet we call Earth.

Please don't let anything happen to me,
the stuff I did, or the work I created.

May I arrive to my family, the people I love, the people I care about,
and live as I wish.

One of You

Lucas Serrano

May I have the power to kick a soccer ball around the world three times and break through the net and burst into flames. May I have the ability to element-blend. May I have drinks and hamburgers, pizza, meat, pasta, and every type of food in the world. May I have a heart and a brain to control people and know what they are thinking. Do not abandon me. Give me strength. Make me become one of you. Please worship me. Please care for me. May I arrive at the godly field of soccer.

Where My Story Began

Donovan Taveres

May I be able to bring back dinosaurs.
I'll need ten gallons of water and ten tons of fruit and meat.
I'll also need the DNA of the ones that passed
and the technology to bring them back.

May I return to my planet earth, the place I grew up on.
May I have eyes that can see the beauty that people created.

Please don't forget the things I've done, and never lose hope.

May I arrive at the house where my story began.

May I

Alba Zeka

May I be able to start homeschooling.
May I have Chili's, pizza, Pepsi, and water.
May I have a dog that can talk.

Please don't let anyone kidnap me
or I'll punch them.
May I arrive at Unicorn Land.

The Places I Love

Lauren Viciado

May I be able to go back in time.
May I have all kinds of Starbucks drinks to stay alive.
May I have tacos to eat and have energy.
May I return to the past and all my memories.
May I have legs that run fast like a cheetah.
Please don't let my past affect my future.
May I arrive at the places I love.

Class 6-413

Ms. Linehan





What Did They Want

Demetrios Sinishtaj

The lion is being stabbed by the hunters.
Its blood is being splattered everywhere.
The swords are going deeper inside of the lion.
The lion is roaring for help.
The lion looks at the hunters and it hears them screaming.
The lion takes its last breath
and fades away.
It wonders why they killed him.
He never did anything to them.
What did they want?

I See Only Darkness

Jackson Kinsey

I witness the hunters running after me with their spears.
Soon after I tire, the men start to brutally butcher me.
Why did I need to kill all of their men?

Ah yes, now I know,
because they killed my family.
But every moment I feel their cold arsenal stab me.
Seconds later
I see only darkness.

For My Family

Miguel Montero

Phew...me and my brothers are tired.
It was worth it because the lion is dead.
I can smell the already cooked lion.
The lion's meat feels weird when I hold it.
I need this for my family and my village.
I am afraid of the lion's friends and family.

Save Me

Julian Villatoro

What I notice right this instant
is my throat getting slit open,
and them abusing and insulting me,
calling me a traitor and abusing me.
I hope my family survives this gruesome battle.
I hope that my son is somewhere safe too.
What I smell is sweat and courage
and them wanting to kill me.
My last words are,
Save me.



The Home of My Loved Ones

Alex Albin

May I be able to kick the soccer ball around the world a million miles and let it fly into the goal at supersonic speed. I need salmon, mashed potatoes, and pizza. I need Gatorade, water, and banana milkshakes. I must have Lamborghinis and gold. May I have legs that will never get tired. Please don't hurt my family and friends. May I return to the home of my loved ones.

The Last Stop of Glory

Aliza Angioletti

May I be able to stop time as much as I want
so I can fix anything I want

May I have as much food as I need to survive
with beautiful roses as the water drips from their petals
and makes the drops of water look red

May I return to 1986
to become an adult

May my eyes become so strong
that I can see the planets and the stars clearly

Please don't let me and my family suffer because of others

May I return to the last stop of glory

May My Heart Be Strong

Gisell Avila

May I have the power to time-travel back
so I can see the good times I had with my family
May I have food, people who care for me,
drinks, a puppy, a home.
May I return to Mexico and live with my family
May my brain be smart, may my heart be strong
so that I can understand my friends and family more
Please, can you not harm my family and my friends?
May I arrive at my house in Mexico
to see my family.

The Flash In Your Eyes

Virmely Bruno

I am a student and singer. I am a she-god who is happy with all opinions. I am a peace maker.

I am fortunate to live under a roof where I can sleep, eat, and see my family smile every single day.

You are all given a purpose to be successful at something. You are what your actions have taught you to be. *You are you!*

Enjoy life! Life is like a box of chocolates. Your sweet smiling is worth a thousand words. If you're not smiling, you're doing it wrong!

Don't be someone you are not, because everyone else is taken. If someone is sad, be helpful and help them. Don't change to impress someone. Don't dress to impress. Be yourself. You're beautiful. You are one of a kind.

You are creative. Stay that way. You are what brings the light into the room when it's dark. You are a successful person. You are encouraging and caring. See the flash in your eyes before it happens.

The Fastest

Angelina Cabrera

May I be able to have the ability to run
faster than the speed of sound

May I have the choice to eat
in Big Billy's Burger

May I return to the time-line when my mother died
to save her life

May my friends at S.T.A.R Labs particle accelerator go off
to make me the fastest man alive

Don't let Zoom take away my power

May I go to my home with Iris West
and sleep

Anything In the World

Issbel Collado

May I be able to dance ten hours straight without food or water
May I have salad, chicken, rice, and tacos for life
and as much Strawberry Kiwi Snapple, lemonade, and water as I want
May I live in a beautiful castle to live in every day
and a beautiful dress to wear every day
I want to go back to Disney World with my family and friends
to get delicious Mickey ice cream
May my legs run and walk as fast as they can
and may my brain know anything in the world

so I can pass every test
Please don't shut me out and forget about me
May I return to the land of fun
with rides, food, and drinks

The Dancing City

Lily J. Connor

May I be able to talk to plants and unite
with the great speaker to animals, Martina.
May I have a huge garden filled with exotic plants
from all over the world.
May I have a beautiful peach tree
to see in front of my treehouse
and a beautiful talking blueberry that can do tricks.
May I return to Oapes, a beautiful village in France
The best part, the Marche'.
May I have a heart that never stops.
May I have a life that doesn't end.
May I never get sick, may I never feel bored.
May I return to the dancing city.

A Heart That Can See Who's In Love

Tais Cruz

May I have my voice travel
for ten lifetimes.
May I have a studio, food, and
water and love.
May I go back to Puerto Rico
to see my family.
May I have a heart that can
see who's in love.
Please don't let the animals
or people kill my family.
May I return to the backyard
where I learned family,
love, and peace.

A Piece of the Sun

Basma Elbagory

May I be able to create a medicine
to save everyone from cancer at once
May I have bread and anything that the sick patients desire
May I have fresh and beautiful water from the Nile River
to see the smile on the wonderful people
May I have a piece of the sun
and the most precious flowers on all of the earth
to make their faces glow
Lastly, may I exterminate the horrible creature
that wishes death upon everyone
May I return the sick ones
to their nice, peaceful, loving childhood
May I give my heart for the others to survive
Please, never let them face the fears of death
pain and sourness
May I take the sick ones to a waterfall
deep in the beautiful, meaningful forest
where they can thrive and survive

Hail, Marshmallows

Anekin Espinal

Hail to you, marshmallows.
You come from the factories of paradise.
When you are gone, I eat graham crackers and chocolate.
All alone, without you,
who will make my mouth burst with flavor when I eat Rice Krispies?
When you are here, I feel smushy.
Come here now and let me finish you.
Whenever you are gone,
I faint.

Rule the World

Yehazari Felix

I am a student, a daughter, a friend, a sister and God-sister. I am a runner and a champion. I'm fortunate to have a family, home, food, and friends. My friends help me, make me laugh, and haters are nothing in this world. You are people who have a place in my heart, but if you do something terrible, you're going to have a hole in your heart. We could be bad friends or family or me myself, but one day it will end because we are in the light. You should go back and give the kids homework and tell your teacher that you were not absent, you just didn't do your homework, or tell your parents that you failed the test, or that you just changed the grade. Don't do nothing for people who broke your heart. Instead, rule the world.

A Heart That Is Unbreakable

Constantine Giorgadze

May I be able to read people's minds
May I have the best soccer and basketball skills
in the world
I want my beautiful family around me
May I go back to when I was six years old
May I have a heart that is unbreakable
Please do not make me hang out with the wrong people
May I go where me and my family
can never get hurt

Protected and Perfect

Henry Gonzalez

May I have a mind of internet, watch YouTube on the go
and grant me texting powers so I may chat
with the homies in my head.
May I have Google Translate so I may speak all languages
and play online games anywhere, any time.
May I also play any music I want.
May I also have the power to summon any food I please,
and any drink I can swallow.
May I also have a tiny home that could hover and fly anywhere
with a built-in time machine.

May I have superhuman strength and flexibility.
Don't let my house be damaged or my health decrease,
and may I return to the only isolated place on earth
which will be protected
and perfect.

The Beautiful Things That Surround Me

Kaylan Gutierrez

May I be able to ask for an unlimited amount of wishes
to wish for anything

May I have all the food and things I need to survive

May I have the love that my family always gives me
and have them beside me

May I be able to wake up and see
the beautiful things that surround me

May I return to the past to see
all the great memories I had

May I have a mouth to taste all the wonderful food
May I have eyes to see all the wonderful things I have
May I have a brain to think about what I have done
And may I have a heart to feel kindness and love

Where Their Hearts Lead Them

Liah Jimenez

May I be able to travel around the world in a millisecond
to help children complete their life

May I have the food, water, and clothing that these children need to not starve
to not get cold at night, and to not have polluted water to drink every day
May you see the beautiful sight of morning
and be happy and not sad

May you go to your happy place and stay forever

at peace with the people you love and admire
May it provide all that you need

May I have my arms to reach to new places
to provide the children with what they need
and may they stay happy

Please do not let the children that I have spent my life with
die in pain or horror

May the children go and stay
where their hearts lead them in peace

Everything The World Has To Offer

Thomas Jurewicz

May I have all of the electronics in the world
so that I would never get bored.
May I have chicken nuggets and french fries
so I can have food for the rest of my life.
May I help all the people who are in need
get food, water, and good housing.
May I find a cure for all the cancers
so I can help the people who are having a hard time in life.
May I also be able to travel around the world very quickly,
so that I can see everything that it has to offer.
Finally, may I be able to go back in time
so that I can change many big mistakes
that have affected this world negatively.

Make the World Happy

Lara Mladenovic

I am a girl, a daughter, a student, a big sister, a good friend, a person who laughs, and a person who loves puppies.
I'm fortunate to have a lovely family and friends.

All you family, friends, teachers, classmates, and puppies.
You all accomplished your happiness when you are sad, even in the bad times.

We all start small and young, big and smart, we all end up with our last love breath; the next thing you know, you are in heaven.

Go out and spread the light, even share your smile along the way, but most important is love.

Don't go if you are sad. Don't spread fear. If you do, nothing will be the same.

You are a great person. Make the world happy once more.

All Super Powers Ever Imagined

Dorothy Nicholas

May I have the ability to willingly use all super powers ever imagined or created.

May I have lots and lots of mashed potato and egg and flan and Gatorade or Sprite when I'm hungry.

May I have the biggest house that is able to fly in space, and the most adorable dog.

May I be able to go back to 1995 and see my sister and brother as a little kid.

May I have a brain so smart that I can manipulate anything.

Please don't let the wrath of evil consume others.

May I arrive at the comfort of my home and family.

Because It Brings Me Happiness

Armando Pena

May I be able to make anything I don't like disappear

May I have a meal of chicken tenders, sweet potato fries and buffalo sauce

May I drink Coca Cola and have all the new systems and games

May I go back to my house because it brings me happiness

May I have hands to play the video games people offer to me

May you protect me from grave robbers

and protect everyone from diseases

May I go to a store called GameStop

and buy all the new and old video games

Hands Gentle Enough To Heal

Martina Posmentier

May I be able to speak a million languages
one of which the animals speak
May I have the great taste of sushi
May I have the satisfying taste of iced tea
May I have the delightful sound of music
the beautiful sight of the sun setting
May I return to my cabin in the mountains
surrounded by life
the sounds of silence when I awake
May I have a heart big enough to love everything
and everyone
May I have hands gentle enough
to heal the worried creatures who come to me for help
Prevent the world from being under the curse of hatred
Protect my loved ones
from whatever or whomever will stop them
from their goals, ready to be achieved
May I return to where the sacred waves form
that eventually break

You Come From My Heart

Chairilin Ravelo

Hail to you, Mom.
You come from my heart and heaven.
When you are not here, I can have no strength,
because you wake me up with your love.
When you are here, I have someone to love and trust.
Only you understand me.
Only a mom like that
would love their kids this way.

A Piano In the Clouds

Anna Rezin

May I have twenty fingers
so that I only have to move a finger to play piano
May I have notes and songs
going through my head for me to be able to play
To have a song written down in front of me
to come with a melody
Let me go back home to have my parents listen
and my sister sing along
Get my teacher to come and teach me new songs
May I have fingers that can play on a piano in the clouds
and never start hurting
Please don't let my fingers fall off from playing too much
and please don't let my foot get sore from pressing on the pedal
May I return to the piano of my dreams on the clouds
Let me dream while playing piano

All the Time In the World

Victoria Rivera

May I be able to change time so I can go to the past
and have all the time in the world to spend with you.
I need food to go back in time.
I need some kind of liquid
so I can talk to her.
I need pretty flowers, like roses,
and a family that lives in palaces.
May I go back in time before she leaves.
May I have my heart that will not have been broken.
Please don't let this happen to anyone else.

The World of Rides, Laughter, and Fun

Solimar Rodriguez

May I be able to bake fantastic amazing cakes
for two hours without getting tired

May I have my own big baking room with a lot of baking pans
frosting, and a thousand decorating tools
May I have some chocolate candy and chicken nuggets
May I have some beautiful flowers and the sun shining high
May I be able to go back to Disney World and the Disney Cruise
May my arms be fast so I can mix up my batter fast.
And may my brain know every measurement
so I won't have to be doing math
Please don't forget me and shut me out of your life
May I return to the world of rides, laughter, and fun

Live Your Dreams

Justin Sandoval

I am a leader, I am a champion, I am a student, I am a boy who is lucky to be born with a life. I am a boy who believes in being successful in life. I am fortunate to have a home, clothes, food, and water to survive. You are looking at a boss right here. You are witnessing a champion going to work, to become successful in the future. You are the one. You are you. And the only one who can stop you is you. You have been the friend anyone can wish for. You provide me with everything I need to succeed. Spending time with family members gives me joy. When my brother tells a joke, we laugh. Although we live only once, let's make life worth it. So go out and live your dreams, celebrate with others, make someone smile. Don't do drugs, don't drink, don't smoke. Instead, make the right choice.

Live Your Life For Today

Genesis Silvero

I am a daughter who lives in the city. I am a student who behaves and gets good grades with her friends and family who truly care about her by her side.

I am fortunate to have people around me who care about me. I am fortunate to afford all the things I need.

With haters in my life trying to bring me down, but I have my friends and my family to bring me back up. Don't go back to yesterday, and live your life for today.

Happy Forever

Angelina Sosa

May I have a ton of eyes
to look over my family in the Dominican Republic
May I have super powers like flying
so that I may take care of my family when they need
May I also have all the pastelitos in the world (cheese only)
May I have my favorite soda
May I return to DR so I can see my family
May my family never break my heart
May I arrive at DR and be happy
forever

The Best House In the World

Zachary Upson

May I be able to feed the entire world
and satisfy every single mouth
May I have a slice of pizza that will assuage my hunger
May I have an apple so nutritious and so sweet, nature's candy
May I have meat, the sacred food, for it is so savory
and can be prepared in so many ways
I would love a thirst-quenching fruit punch
sipping it on the beach, watching the sunset
May I have a delicious orange juice right on the water
having a nice toast
I would love to have hot chocolate, watching the snow fall
May I have a brain that knows all the recipes
and how to prepare these dishes
May I also have a pair of arms so I can cook
so many meals in one day
I just hope that my family is not hurt
and that I become successful with what I hope for
May I return to the home of peace
not as loud or bustling as the city
the house that I love, the one that is
the best house in the world

Find Joy

Arman Zarmehrbakhsh

I am the carer of animals, a learner, and curious.

I am fortunate to be with nature.

You who do all different tasks, teaching, watching, finding, caring,

You, and you, and you.

You who have broken and destroyed our world.

You who have healed and brought together our world.

In the nature of our world, life thrives, new lives bloom,

and people fall to never get back up.

Go out and spend your life doing your passion with all of the life in our world.

Find joy in everything.

Do not try to birth hatred.

Instead of birthing hatred, birth joy.



Class 6-419

Ms. Linehan





I Want To Live

Aliana Solorzano

I see blood dripping down my body along with the two soldiers trying to stab me till I die! I hear the spears clanging into each other so they can stab me. I smell the trees that I guard. Why? Why do they have to take all my precious trees, and me with them? I did no harm. I feel the pain; oh, it hurts so bad! I feel sad and angry and determined to live to protect my forest. I want to live! I'm afraid of being dead. All I can remember is protecting my forest, and the warriors taking my precious trees. I dream of revenge some day.

Being Remembered

Ariana Palamar

I see the cold iron blades jabbing into my lungs. I hear the screaming of the three men trying to kill me. I smell my fresh blood. I feel angry and confused about why they are trying to conquer me. I want my family to avenge my death. I'm afraid that these men will kill my tribe. I remember me and every other lion drinking water at the lake. I dream of being remembered by my family.

Selfish

Azalea Twining

I run after a creature who I deem will soon be destroyed,
A creature of magnificence that I must kill
in order to live till morning.
A creature that is looking for the same comfort I am,
wandering through thickets and bush,
only to find more in their path.
I see my own eyes reflected in those of the creatures
once strong and brave
now weak and useless.
As I shoot my spear through the neck of the creature,
I create a much deeper wound within myself,
As I kill the creature that I see when I look into the mirror,
I fall to the floor,
exhausted,
and traumatized,
because I was selfish enough to think
that I needed something more
than my own reflection did.

I Remember the Lions

Parker Slaton

I see blood pouring out of the lion's neck. I see an army of lions running towards me. I hear the whimpers from the dying lion and the screams coming from the wounded men behind me. I feel the claw-marks on my back. I feel good. I want to kill all the lions because they would destroy my farm again. I remember the lions coming to my farm and killing all my horses and pigs. I want to kill them all.

The Family I Had

Liam DeLaCruz

I see the living beings trying to kill me. I see the spears going into my body. I hear my heart has stopped beating. I feel pain leaving this body. I feel I am going to die soon. I want to be free in the wild where I belong. I want to have freedom. I am afraid of the weakness entering my body. I am afraid of being eaten by predators. I remember that I forgot to bring my family and die as a family. I dreamt about this happening to me one day. Now I dream about the family I had.



When There Is No Death, Life Is a Legend

Milan Borjas

When there is no death
there is no life,
there is no emotion.
When there is no death
you are immortal.
When there is no death
life is a myth,
and the sky is old.
Where there is no death
you have no freedom.

When there is no death
you feel alive.
When there is no death
you have freedom

and the sky is young.
When there is no death
emotions come back,
life is unlimited.

When there is no death
life is a legend.

The Gateway of Heaven

Sonya Cabral

May I be able to remember my mother and father so I can stay humble and kind. May I have all the diamonds in the world and mangu' with salami. Give me bread and butter, and water to drink so I don't get thirsty. Also, give me a nice fluffy mattress with fluffy pillows, shoes—preferably Converse—so my feet do not get tired. Let me return to my home where I grew up and have all my memories. May I have eyes that can see the whole galaxy. Please don't let my parents forget all their memories of me. May I arrive at the gateway of heaven where I will lie for eternity.

Every Dance I Learned

Helena Canning

May I be able to remember every dance I learned and teach it to others. May I have an endless amount of water and chocolate milk. May I have an endless amount of deodorant so I don't get stinky. May I have an endless amount of microwavable mac and cheese. May I have a pretty sunset to dance in front of. May I return to my favorite dance studio in LA where there is a 16 Handles restaurant next to it. May I have a brain that remembers everything. Please don't let me break a bone.

The Way I Feel

Angelina Corniel

Hail to you, Singing!
You come from my voice and my blood.
You come from music that plays on the radio.
If you go away, I will not have a talent.
If you go away, I don't know any other ways

to talk about who I am, or my feelings.
When you are here, I feel happy and relaxed.
When you are here, I know who I am
and no one can change it or take it away from me.
You are inspiration to me.
No one can do that the way you do.
You alone can take care of me
when I feel down.
Come here and make me feel
the way I feel with you.

Hail To You, Cheese

Lazlo Stein

All hail the great and all powerful cheese, creator of the universe and all that is good. You who come from sheep, goat, and cow. You, the all powerful. If you were to cease your existence, all that is good in the world would also be destroyed. Your two evil forms, American Cheese and Swiss, would rule the world, and all the world would be plunged into deep chaos. All the world would be doomed. When you are here, people enjoy you, you are praised and put on tacos and nachos. You have what none others have—true greatness and infinite rule over all the world. You are good to the people of the universe. You have eternal life but can choose to die at any given time. You would only die at the perfect time, like Obi Wan Kenobi. Please teach the rest of the earth your true kindness for the greater good in the world.

When There Is No Death, There Is No Color

Isaac Chiriboga

When there is no death, life is strange.
You see everything die.
Death means nothing to you.

When there is no death, you are like a god.
You will be miserable.
You will be lonely.

When there is no death, you'll see everything you love die.

When there is no death, there is no color.
Life will become nothing.
Everything will go wrong.

Live Forever

Adolfo Dilone

I am a great baseball and football player.

You students and teachers of 419,

Flowers and trees that die,

You will never live forever.

Whatever I Want

Adler Espinal

May I be able to stop time to do whatever I want. May I have Caesar Salad and lite ranch dressing with water or Brisk. May I have endless amounts of money. May I see the amazing sunset of the day, and may I see the next solar eclipse. May I return to the Dominican Republic with the nice beaches and pools and the soft sand and the warm sun on my back. May I have the fastest legs possible. Please don't let Freddy Krueger get me in my nightmares. May I arrive at Shake Shack to eat my cheeseburger.

A Good Path

Verenice Estrella

I am a student, a daughter, and a sister. You parents, you teachers, and you music lovers. Parents who take care of kids, teachers who teach, and music lovers who listen to Drake or whoever you like. Snow falls from the sky, and rains, and finally the sun slays our skin. You should go through a good path, not a bad one. You should be respectful and follow directions. Also, don't do what you know is wrong.

No Way To Live

Mia Goldman

When there is no death
there is no life
there is no way to live
no more friends
and especially
no Nutella sandwiches.

No Matter How Beautiful

Leda Hegedus

May I be able to have a supply of endless wishes. May I consume food from any part of the world, like spaghetti, pizza, or grilled cheese sandwiches. May I have drinks like water or tea. And my family when I need them. May I have a beautiful seashore all to myself, and be happy and calm. May I return to my homeland to roam free wherever I prefer. May I have hands to hold my flute, and have my own brain, but with endless knowledge to share with others. May I not do bad without good reason, and do not let me be imprisoned in a space no matter how beautiful all my days. May I have my homeland in complete peace, so I can return with my family there with me.

The Day He Is Free

Jane Jensen

He sees the threatening white men in front of him, cornering him. He hears the names he is being called, words that belong to white men. He can smell the musk on the old walls and floors he's standing against. He feels the aches in his body from not sleeping for so long. He also feels confusion because of the hatred being thrown at him, just because of the color of his skin. He wants there to be peace and equity throughout the world. He is afraid of what his life will lead to because of the racist world around him. He remembers when he lived in Africa and there was no racism. He dreams about the day he is free...

Why You Are Living

Ulladzimi Khaustovich

When there is no death, life has no meaning.
If you get hurt by something, you will feel that pain forever.
All our resources will be gone,
electricity will all be gone.
You will wish to be dead.
You will go crazy.
You will see illusions.
You won't know, and will never know
why you are living.

Days Come

Amara Kost

I am Amara Kost. I am an artist, a writer, and a daughter. You authors, you dancers, you artists. You who wrote books, you who drew pretty pictures, you who dance amazingly. The sunshine makes the flowers grow, the rain makes nature grow. But days come when things are going to die. Always be happy, no matter what. Remember, life is short. Don't be mean or selfish. Be happy and have a huge heart throughout life.

Do What You Love

Daria Elayne Maharaj

I am a woman who is a sister, daughter, aunt, and musician who lives in the city. You welders, airport workers, and firefighters. You welders have made buildings more secure and have risked your lives doing your jobs. You airport workers have made other people's lives more secure. You firefighters have a way of saving lives, risking you and your family. Trees fall, leaves fall in different seasons, like you soon will. If you love helping people, then do what you love. Go draw. Go see your loved ones. Don't do what you don't love.

Life Is Long

Mariana Mchedlishvili

When there is no death, life is long.
There is no point.

No Motion

Joreiliz Ocasio

When there is no death
there is no life.
When there is no death
there is no motion.

No Use

Lola O'Harlem

When there is no death
there is no use in weapons.
We could live on all the planets.
We could have a trashy planet
or planets where people own alligators
as pets.
When there is no death
food won't matter anymore.

You Alone

Ethan Park

Hail to you, drumming.
You come from my blood.
You are from the depths of my ancestors' history.
If you're not here, I won't have anything to do.
I won't have many ideas for my future.
When you are here, I practice every day.

When you are here, I can work on getting bad memories
out of my head.
You alone have the power to bring doubt
upon the ones who doubt me.
Come and work with me until I die!

The Lily In the Lily Pond

Zoey Parrilla

The lily on the lily pad sees the green pad, and the big pond she is on. She is all alone on the pond that is big to her and small to us. She hears the frog that sometimes keeps her company when she is not shy to ask. She smells the children who splash in her pond every Sunday at two o'clock. She feels sad that the only friends she has are the children who splash and the green frog who comes and goes. She wants to be able to grow and see the world with a stem, because she was blown away from her family. She is afraid that one of the children will splash too hard and splash her into the sun where she will dry out. She remembers when she was a little bug, playing with her mommy. She dreams about returning to her family once more to see their faces when she is all grown up.

No Escape

Nayack Perez

When there is no death
there is no freedom,
life,
or emotions.

When there is no death,
no wars are won.

When there is no death,
people who harm
would still be harming.

When there is no death,
you are forever alive,
no escape.

Immortal

Aleksander Prroj

When there is no death
there is no fear.
There is chaos.
There is living that never ends.
It will be like a game you can never accomplish.
You are immortal and can never die.
The world will run out of Doritos.

The Boy Sees

Stephanie Ramales

The boy sees people walking on the streets
He hears people talking, cars *vrooming*,
and dogs barking.
He smells food. He feels sad.
The boy wants food because he is hungry.
He is afraid of cats.
He remembers the cars moving.
He dreams about living
in a beautiful building.

When There Is No Death

Chloe Roberts

When there is no death,
we should fear life more.
There is an eternity of nothing
but repeating days.

When there is no death,
there are endless blooming flowers.
We may have endless beauty,
But there is no stop.
When there is no death,
We do not truly have a life.

Don't Take Long

Liana Ruiz

I am a tween and a baker
who lives in Riverdale.
You, Mom, God, sleddin', and flowers:
You will be with me forever
(except you flowers).
But go out
and sprout
and live life until you die.
Don't die fast.
Don't take long
to sprout.

The Good In Everything

Alexander Kobakhidze

I am a gift, blessed with the good of this world which will be shared with others; however, merely a mortal human being. You, my fellow students, my teachers, and my peers. You who have proved worthy, you who have taught me, and you who have followed and will follow in my footsteps: There are three stages of life—birth, growth... and, sadly, death. You should make sure to have a healthy and happy life, and always have great success in whatever you want to be. Do not say that life won't be good for you, and don't look on the negative side of things. And remember...

...always look for the good in everything. Always.

Ms. Velasco

Class 6/7





I Am Not Afraid

Antonio Kassab

I see millions of people watching me talk to them. I hear myself talking on the microphone. I smell the people. I feel sad and mad that segregation is still going on. I want to end segregation. I want this to end because segregation is not right. I am not afraid of anything. I am not afraid because I have nothing to be afraid of.

We All Deserve Freedom

Aaron Almonte

I see people protesting for their rights. I smell the cologne on so many people. I feel freedom. I want to an end to police brutality. I am afraid of no man. I am not afraid because I fear no one. I dream about a day where black people aren't being messed with anymore. I dream this because we all deserve freedom.



He Wants Freedom

Mariela Hernandez

He sees a million people in the crowd listening to what he is saying. He hears all the people talking about what he is saying. He hears all the people talking about what they agree with. It doesn't sound clear. He smells his sweat. He is afraid that no one will agree with him. He wants all the people to agree with his speech. He wants freedom. He is afraid he will be alone. He dreams about all of the people agreeing with his speech. His dream is for all the people to speak out.

Happy and Free

Eleny Martinez

I see a lot of people protesting and holding boards. I hear people walking and talking. I smell other people sweat. I feel happy because I feel like I am getting a lot of people to stand up. I want freedom. I want to be happy and free to talk about my religion. I am afraid of not getting freedom. I am afraid of that because I might not get to do what I want. I dream about getting freedom of speech and religion.



I Dream About Freedom

James Millery

I see other people in jail, and I see police men. I hear policemen's footsteps. I also hear sirens and people getting beaten. I smell sweaty people and bad food. I feel metal bars. I feel upset, and I feel hurt. I want freedom from jail. I want freedom because I want to see my family. I am afraid of jail. I am also afraid of execution and never seeing my family again. I am afraid of this because I don't want to die. I dream about freedom from jail. I dream about this because I don't want to be in jail, and be beaten. I did nothing wrong.

I Am Brave

Jayden Ortiz

I see a lady holding a feather. I hear that police officers listening to what I am saying. I smell hey on the ground and gas from cars. I feel like the team will dig a hole and find oil to pump. I don't want them to pump for oil. I don't want the oil to spill. I am not afraid of anything. I am brave. I dream about leading the team. I want to be the leader.



Stop Fighting

Elian Reynoso

He sees the swat team and random people fighting. He hears people screaming. He smells sweat and body odor. He feels scared and he feels the wooden shield. He wants people to stop fighting. He wants people to stop fighting. He is afraid of the people attacking him. He is afraid of the people attacking him because he doesn't want to get hurt. He is dreaming about the people fighting and what will happen. He is dreaming about that because he doesn't want the people to get hurt and have a fight.

Trouble

Kevin Sanchez

I see two girls who are going to be in jail. I hear police talking. I think the police will call her mom. I see the police. The police smell bad. I see one girl is happy and one is sad. I know the two girls want to apologize to the police. They are afraid of the police. They are afraid because she doesn't want to get in trouble.

She Dreams of Freedom

Luis Taveras

She sees the police holding shields with armor and people holding flags. She hears people screaming and she hears the police shields bumping into each other. She smells people's breath. She feels people squeezing next to each other. The person wants freedom. She wants this because she is tired of not getting what they want. She is afraid of going to jail. She is afraid of going to jail because it is scary and there are bad people there. She dreams of freedom. She dreams of his because she doesn't want to do something she doesn't like.

Ms. Velasco

Class 7/8





Making the World Better Again

Michael Garces

In the photo, the man sees many people watching, videotaping and recording him giving a speech. He hears people murmuring “yes” and “no” under their breath. He smells smoke, someone causing a fire. He feels like he wants to give a speech somewhere safe. He wants to end certain events, such as racial segregation and Jim Crow laws. He says that racial discrimination is not good at all, and he wants to end it. He is afraid he might get arrested for giving a speech. He doesn’t want to be in prison for giving a speech. He dreams about making the world better again. He doesn’t want the world to be in any more violence.

What Is Coming In His Life

Isaias Perdomo

He sees a lot of people looking at him. He also sees NYPD in front of him. He sees his friends in the cell with him, calling him names. He also hears the police telling him not to talk. He smells sweat and he smells fear. He feels so scared because he is going to be in jail for a long time. He wants to get out of this tiny cell. He wants to know what is coming in his life. He’s afraid of the people in jail that they are going to beat him up for what he did. He’s afraid of that because he doesn’t want to die in jail. He dreams about getting out of jail. He dreams of this because he doesn’t want to be there, he wants to be with his family.



The Same Rights As Everyone

Jenesis Diaz

She sees people trying to get freedom from a crowd. She also sees Martin Luther King giving a speech with a spotlight shining on his forehead. Martin Luther King is reaching his hand out and his shirt is stretched out. She hears Martin Luther King's speech "I Have a Dream." She is looking at him and she is sweating because she has been standing in the sun for such a long time. She smells perfume and cologne of many different people. The woman feels very confident that they will have freedom. She is very happy and she is approving of MLK's speech. She wants freedom and triumph for MLK and freedom for everyone. She wants this because many people are in the room and their approving of what's happening. She is afraid of Martin Luther King being arrested for his bravery and his speech. She's afraid of this because she wants freedom and she wants the best for her little kids at home. She dreams about a field of flowers where her two kids can breathe the fresh air and have freedom. She wants the same rights as everyone else.



She Feels Strong

Hany Alssaidi

She has a feather in her hand and sees the police in front of her. She hears nightsticks with the police and her nation is saying, "We need to be protected!" She smells her feather because her nation has a lot of feathers. She feels brave because she's mad. She wants to protect her nation. If she does not protect her nation it will be destroyed. She is not afraid of anything because she feels strong. She dreams of her nation is protected.

I Can Be On My Own

Logan Quinones

I see a really cool new building that was built. I hear a lot of people screaming with joy. I hear trumpets, as if the president is coming out of the building. I smell some fresh air, but also a little bit of garbage. I feel really good that I will get to own my own home. Now I can move right into the apartment. I want to move in because I want to prove to my old man that I can be on my own. I am afraid of my mom and a little bit of my step dad. I'm afraid of my mom because she knows my weaknesses. I dream of impressing my step dad. I dream this because my step dad is my role model; I have always looked up to him.

Having Freedom

Andrick Reyes

He sees the police is pushing people away. He hears screaming, cursing and maybe shooting. He feels people pushing him back, people banging on the shield. He wants the people to stop pushing and move back, plus everyone calming down. He wants this because some people men do not want to fight or have any problems with the people. He is afraid of some people shooting the police. They are afraid of this because they don't want the people who have guns taking over. He dreams about having freedom and the rights everyone has.

True Happiness

Victor Nunez

He sees all the police next to him and he sees his shield getting a little dented. He hears them yelling, "Do not resist! All who cause damage will be arrested!" He smells the smell of new leather shoes. He also smells his girlfriends perfume because he hugged her before he left his home. He feels cramped up with all of these people around him. He wants to go home and play all day with his children, and then got to bed for a while. He wants that because after a long day, he just wants to relax. He is afraid someone in the crowd will pull out a stick and beat him to death, if they manage to get through the police crowd. He is afraid of this because of a previous traumatization. He dreams about taking his kids to the meadows. He dreams about this because it is true happiness.

I Want To Be Free

Alexander Guzman

I see colored people locked in cells and white men talking to each other. I hear shackles moving around, people praying, and crying. I smell pain, suffering, sadness and food. I feel the rust on the metal. I feel the bruises on my back. I want to be free. I want to end my suffering. I want that because I am treated like any animal. I'm afraid of being a slave.

All I Want

Carlos Santana

I see a lot of people marching and walking for freedom. I see people worried and scared of getting hurt. I hear people screaming and yelling for freedom. I smell perfume and the fresh air. I feel the heavy billboard and I feel butterflies in my stomach. All I want is the freedom to be together with whites. I want it because I don't want to be judged by my color and treated like I am no one. I am afraid of getting arrested or beaten. I am afraid of this because I have to take care of my wife and kids. I dream about being able to be together with whites and not getting bothered for who I am. I dream about this because I don't like the negativity towards the people of my color.

I Love My Family

Kenny Pena

I see police around me wearing a police uniform, and I see police cars. I see a little girl getting arrested. I hear sirens and walkie talkies and police talking to each other. I smell sweaty cops and gas from the cars behind me. I feel a grip on my wrist. I feel sad because I do not want to be arrested. I want to go back home to my mom and dad. I want that because I do not want to go to jail. I am afraid of going to jail and the prisoners in jail. I am afraid of that because I am afraid of prisoners beating me up. I dream about me spending time with my family. I dream about that because I love my family and want them to spend time with me.

He Did Nothing Wrong

Sean Tamayo

The person in the photo sees another person being arrested. He did nothing wrong, all he did was cross the street. He hears the police officers saying, "Get on the ground." He smells Hispanic food and it smells good. He feels bad for the other person who is being arrested. He wants the police to let this person go. He wants this because they did nothing wrong. He is afraid of being shot. He is afraid of this because he is afraid the person being arrested will steal the police officers gun and start shooting. He dreams of the police officers being nice to black people. He wants this because he wants people to be nice to each other.