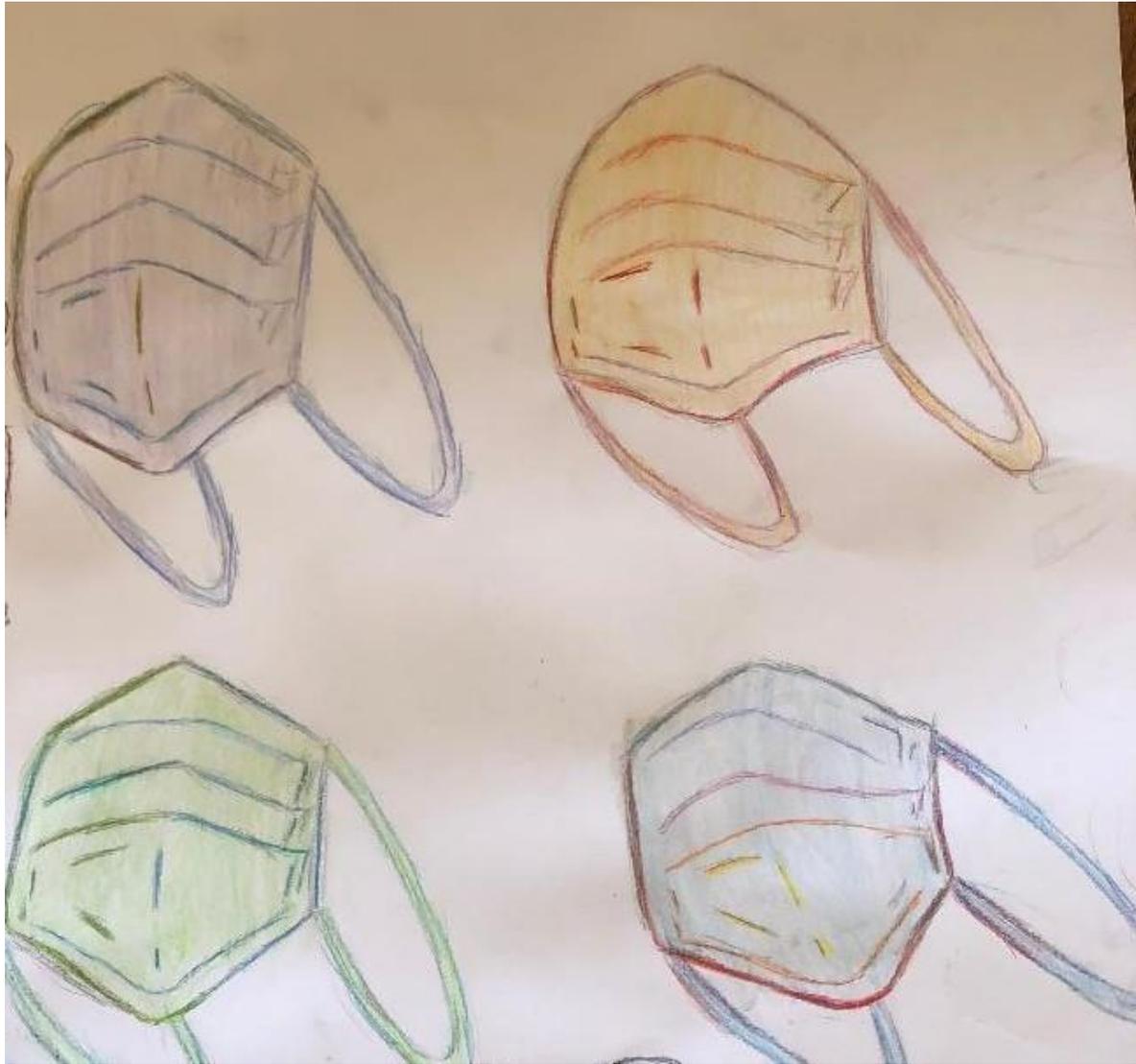


# How the Road Has Changed



2019-2020 Poetry Anthology and  
Haiku Collection  
Sidney Gutierrez Middle School

## The Anthology That Almost Wasn't

Our resident poet John Brandi came to Roswell as he has done every year for the past 17 years and worked with our students the last five days of February. Unbeknownst to us, the world as we knew it was about to disappear. The poems that the students wrote that week reflect the last thoughts and feelings that they would capture in writing before everything in our lives would change. We knew that there was a new virus that had sickened people in China and other faraway places, and we talked about this in class, but, as the poems reveal, the students were concerned with other issues—the environment, love, friendship, families, and finding themselves.

Mr. Brandi left us on February 28. He took with him all of the poems the students had written that week, at least 5 for each student. His charge was to review all the poems and select the ones to be included in our annual anthology. He spent days poring over the students' work, making some edits, and deciding which works were bound for publication. He carefully packages the poems up and mailed them, with a tracking slip, back to school. School let out for us on March 12. The post office website said it was delivered to the school, but no one was there to get it and no one knew exactly where it was. In the stress of the pandemic and our home-bound lives, Mr. Brandi and I sadly accepted that the poems were lost and that there would be no anthology for 2020. This was especially heartbreaking for me, as I had worked each of the anthologies for the past 17 years with love, and this would be my last year teaching at Sidney and there would be no book of poetry for my final year.

But miracle of miracles, Mrs. Meraz found the poems in late April. I have typed up the anthology, but I cannot add student artwork as I have in past years because it's all locked away at school. I don't know how or when I will get this printed and bound, nor do I know how I will get the books to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders who will not be returning to Sidney. But it will get done somehow and the important poetry in this collection will be part of all of our 2019-20 students' libraries going forward.

So, this is not your father's anthology (ask an old person what that means) but it's yours and its departure from the way of past volumes reflects how our own lives too have changed.

I will miss you all and wish you all the very best and all the poetry in the world.

Leslie Lawner

May 2020

Cover drawing is by Isaac N.



## Natalea

### Summer Days

It's a sunny day outside  
The sun is beaming  
The sky is light blue with few clouds  
You go to watch a funny movie with your friends  
Then you go to the mall  
Or get chocolate ice cream with them afterwards.  
You come home  
To the smell of your mom baking  
Her delicious brownies.  
You play tag or hide and seek  
With your siblings until they get tired  
And after having a really good day  
You go to sleep  
To do it all over again.  
These are the memories that make me happy.

### What Matters Most

Everyone defines beauty  
As what appearance is  
And how you are to be seen.  
As children we learn that  
Your appearance is what matters most  
I feel like only a few can be themselves  
And I am trying to understand why.  
I am trying to understand why people  
Define beauty as what you look like  
But your personality is not mentioned.  
Most people seem to ignore what's on the inside  
When that's what matters most.

### Changes

It's hot outside  
Lots of traffic  
Trash getting thrown on streets  
Forest fires  
Icebergs melting  
Animals becoming extinct  
Diseases spreading  
Hurricanes and tornadoes becoming  
more common  
The Earth dying every second  
If only people would help  
Help pick up trash  
Pollute less  
And keep Earth alive longer.

## Yaneli

### Earth is Changing

Rarely any wildfires.  
No ice melting.  
Animals were kept alive.  
Hurricanes rarely happened.  
Tornadoes were unusual.  
Earthquakes were uncommon.  
Children were kept safe.  
Adults were alive.  
Everything was safer.

### Now

There's too many wildfires.  
Ice is melting.  
Animals are dying.  
Hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes happen more often.  
Children and adults aren't always safe.  
The climate is changing  
The Earth is changing  
And it's getting worse and worse.

### Never Matters

I can hear the bitter comments as she walks by  
She doesn't care, it's like it never matters to her.  
They try and tell her what the "correct standards" are.  
She just ignores them.  
All I do is watch.  
I mean what else can I do?  
Every time I'm about to say something she just walks away.  
I always lose the opportunity to tell her that they're wrong.  
Wrong about everything.

### Waiting

The way the wind flows through the  
evergreen trees  
The way the sunlight lights up the  
whole room  
The way the stars shine as bright as  
diamonds  
The way the ocean waves back at me  
The way raindrops fall to make a clear  
puddle  
The way white daisies bloom like the  
opening of a present  
To a fiery summer  
To a cloudy spring  
To a windy autumn  
To a blue winter

All of these things that seem  
unimaginable  
Are here,  
Right in front of us.  
Waiting for someone to appreciate  
them.

Luke B.

### The Ocean

The ocean, what a great place to be.  
To bury your feet in the sand  
And let all of your problems go away.  
To feel the crystal clear waves crash against your body  
And to let them carry away all your fears.

To sit at the boat's bow  
And watch it break the silence of the waves.  
To stand by the starboard and watch the fish swim by

Then breaking all the calmness  
Is the distinct sound of  
A red snapper on the line.

### Looking Back

When you look back on your life  
You ask yourself these questions:  
Were you successful?  
Did you live up to what you wanted to be?  
If you really accomplished your dream  
You would not be asking yourself this question.  
You should have taken the long road,  
You should have put faith in what you believed in.

## Cade

### Future Predilection

The medieval art  
Of formal philosophy  
If often about the mythic.  
To see this visionary imagination  
In motion is breathtaking.  
The horizontal rhythm of  
The words these philosophers are writing  
Have a certain synchronicity.  
The art of philosophy and poetry  
Has taken its eternal form.  
People who have disdain and  
Hatred for art  
Need to take a critical evaluation  
Of how they view the world.

### Fever

The Earth has been diagnosed with a fever  
The fever of global warming  
As the pollution virus spreads  
To the oceans and rivers  
And the atmosphere.  
Humans have done little to  
Fight it.  
Symptoms of global warming include  
More natural disasters  
Death of plants and some creatures  
And air quality goes down  
And much more.  
As the Earth dies  
Its immune system hasn't  
Done much to fight,  
If this is not treated  
Then those pretty lakes and  
Oceans will be pretty no longer.

### Fire

When a dream is deferred  
It starts a fire  
For a dream  
Waiting for the flame to die  
Only does the opposite.  
It adds fuel to the flame.  
As the fuel builds up  
The fire grows bigger  
And harder to contain.  
That causes it to spread  
And cause disaster and chaos.  
The fire can only be put out  
By allowing the dream,  
But the damage has been done.  
The fire shouldn't have been  
Started at all.

Jackson

### What I Live For

I live for the cold winter nights when flaky snow  
Is falling from a white sky.  
Warm summer days when even the snakes don't come out.  
Putting the ball in the right hole in pool on a red table.  
The smell of leather in a new red Chevy Camaro.  
Petting the fur of my little orange cat.  
Sweat from playing tennis on a big green court.  
The smell of fresh bacon in the morning.  
Cold clear water in my fridge.  
The memories with my friends whom I've known forever.  
The comfort of sleep at night in my large, soft bed.  
The heartwarming feeling I get from stretching when I wake up.

### Fountain of English

English is a hard language  
English is a clear fountain of words  
Yet you can do so much with a ripple of the tongue  
You can make rhymes and rhythms  
You can speak lies  
You can drop the truth.

### Singing

We all know about singing  
About constantly adjusting our voices  
About creating new sound patterns  
Despite being bad at it  
We enjoy putting together single words in quick succession  
So quick, without indication of what is being made up

When Will I Know?

Holy Spirit, a radiating light?  
Something that needs to be understood.  
What is it in relation to?  
Is it not just a matter of belief?  
I read but do not comprehend.  
I do not see what they wish me to see.  
I wish there could be no argument.  
Only then will I know.

Owen Gregory

Mountains

The beauty of the mountains amazes me  
The way the Grace's Warbler sings  
And the wind talks to make  
Me feel at home.  
The way streams so peacefully  
Flow through the aspen trees  
The way it distracts me from my problems  
The scent of damp mud  
Pine needles  
The unaltered natural scent  
And the fragrance of burning wood  
While the world's coated in a sheet of white  
The way it distracts me from my problems and worries  
The feeling of being nowhere and somewhere at the same time  
The feeling of being at inner peace and tranquility  
Nothing compares to this feeling

Company Struggle

In order to exist freely  
You must live in a vegetable house  
Where the genius is red tape  
And the radio plays Alcohol Control  
One thing not to do is  
Play on the self-destructive machine  
While doing  
A physical action.

## Jaime

### Beauty

They came running  
Illuminated  
Seen through a leaded window pane of mauve  
Everything dancing  
Hail of grain with cracks  
And bits of straw spinning in a puddle  
The forest's black ink around us  
So beautiful  
So much fear  
The house was steaming  
The fire  
The floor tiles  
The cupboard

### Estaban's Wish

He remembered  
The amazing northern fields  
The day  
His family would have  
A look again.  
In the Texas winter  
Seeing their older daughter  
Finish college.

Jase

### Why I Live

I live for the great experiences  
In life that are so few in  
The world

I live to enjoy life  
Which is a challenge  
In today's world

I live to remember  
All the good times  
I've had with people  
No longer here

I live to be different  
From everyone else

I live for the small  
Moments in life such as  
A sunset or the smell of  
Rain

I live for the feeling  
Of my heart racing  
After doing something exciting

I don't live for others  
I live for myself

### What We Have to Look Forward to

Causal law is controlled by  
Hate and anger

However angels reveal a deeper  
Sense of agony

They reveal the jealousy and pride  
Within the reflection of man

They leave us with one  
Final revelation

They tell us that  
We are trapped with  
No hope of escape from  
The darkness

I Wish

I wish I could  
Start over again  
To fix all of  
My mistakes  
To live in the past  
To do fun things again  
To not worry about today's troubles  
To work harder and become great  
That's my only wish  
Too bad my time  
Is running out.

A Part of Me

When I grow up  
I want to be free  
I want to get away  
From all this tragedy.  
When I grow up  
I want to be a P.T.  
To help other people's problems.  
To take care and be there.  
That's part of me.

## Savannah

### Optimism

As the sun rises on a day of rain  
Some feel saddened from the absence of the sun  
I feel glad that the plants of the earth thirst no more.  
As the last of the leaves fall off the large oak trees  
Some are saddened seeing this as the death of nature  
I see it as the start of a new life cycle.  
As tears run down our faces  
Some only think of why they cry  
I think only of my parents' embrace as they comfort me.

Many people live each day thinking of the negative  
I'll live each day praying and thanking God  
For all the blessings He has given me.  
Why be chained down with negative thoughts  
When each day is a blessing  
Instead take all of your blessings and cut through  
Those ever-binding chains of pessimism.

Optimism is a virtue that we should all have  
It will give us more than a reason to live  
It will give us a reason for being  
It will do more than change negative thoughts  
It will wash them away, never to be thought of again.

Pessimism only causes pain and hate  
It allows demons of depression to creep in  
And control you  
Banish those demons!!  
Kill the negativity

### I Wonder

Galaxy, are we alone in the universe?  
Stranger, what is it like in your Native American culture?  
Violet, do you ever escape the count?  
President, why must you always be so divisive?  
Fox, what is it like to be truly free?  
Earth, do you feel appreciated?  
New York, how does it feel to take care of so many people?  
Ice, what is it like to melt?  
Susan B. Anthony, how can I live up to your example?  
Wizard, what is it like to wield magic?

### Dear Earth

Why do we hurt you?  
We use you and then toss you away

Your trees our paper  
To be used only once

Your water our trash can  
Which we fill with garbage

Your air our fuel exhaust  
Polluted by our vehicles

We treat you like trash  
And yet  
You are always there for us  
In our times of trouble

You are the land we live on  
The air we breathe  
You comfort and take care of us

I am sorry, earth  
For the actions of my peers  
To them you are just another tool  
To be used as they want

Forgive them,  
They don't know you like I do.

## Damaris

### Reasons to Live

It's the long talks you have with your favorite person  
The enjoyable feeling of warmth from the bonfire when it's cold outside  
It's the touch of my mother's beautiful curly hair  
The laughs we have together  
As the bright, radiant colors of the sunset  
Fade away into the glistening night  
In which we were told  
Live the monsters we were scared of as children.  
It's the taste of refreshing water  
As I finish playing basketball with my brother  
While the sun rays hit hard on my face  
It's the little things in life that make us smile.  
It's the little things that make me hold tightly on to life.

### It Doesn't Cost You Anything

Don't trust what you hear.  
Birds chirp in broad daylight  
We with the ability to see  
Assume that they are not in danger  
When in reality they are crying for help  
And we are the ones to blame.  
Fires start, innocent animals die  
We are lazy.  
It doesn't cost you anything to pick up  
trash and recycle  
Animals are dying, they are going extinct.  
Every life matters.  
Help save the environment  
If you want to go back to  
The lovely smell of grass and flowers  
And not to burning forests.

### The Snow Globe

I was stuck  
I knew I was stuck  
I felt around for a while  
Realizing I was in a snow globe.  
The deafening silence was getting to  
me  
I needed a way out  
I sat drowning in confusion  
Looking for a solution.

It's been years  
I still was stuck  
I built the strength  
To finally stand  
I stood proudly  
But the ground shook and  
I couldn't hold myself  
I fell hard.  
It was impossible  
Every moment I remained in  
that snow globe  
I wanted to die  
This painful sensation  
Of not being able to walk  
Hurts.

Jamin

Window Dreams

As my body lay on the ground  
I saw dream images more and more often  
It was like being in a coffin  
I saw a barred window  
That had all my dreams reflected back to me  
As if I didn't know.  
Then suddenly I saw in front of me the bars  
The bars that linked me to my history  
Like the time I had toy cars.  
So it seems that our dreams are more aesthetic than our own brains  
The darkness of night held me as if it were chains  
And I became more curious about the misinformed.

Clouds

When I look up  
At the sky I see  
Animals  
One of my favorites  
Is up there and it's  
The wolf.  
Running so fast he  
Feels like he is  
Finally free.  
At night looking up  
At the unknown space  
With the color black.  
As the days go on  
Clouds start to form  
Big ones full of tears  
Ready to cry and be  
Let out.  
And suddenly you have the scent of ozone  
It's the smell of rain  
Then as the seasons pass  
Winter, my favorite season  
Comes, and with it  
Snow, Snow, Snow, let it snow!

## Quiannalei

### Summer Warmth

The warm sun beats down  
On my face painted pale  
With mineral sunscreen,  
The soft sand smothers my feet  
With white powder  
As sharp, broken shells  
Stab my toes  
The waves of foamy, clear, blue-green water  
Crash against the damp shore  
And bring small shells and salty seaweed  
With it.  
As I step into the chill  
Of the Clearwater ocean  
My troubles drift away  
Like sea-sponge  
On the water's gleaming surface  
As I begin to float  
I let my mind power down  
And simply let the water  
Carry me.  
I am weightless.  
I am fluid.

### Winter Chill

The cool breeze brushes my face  
Dry leaves pop their weakened bones  
The frail boughs groan and tremble  
There is no on  
But I  
In the old wooden gazebo  
With its white paint chipping  
And decorative yellow roses dying.  
I sit alone  
On an ancient wooden bench  
Paint chipping  
In flakes of white  
That fall to the stone ground  
As I clear my mind  
And become one  
With the nature around me.

### Cry of the Land

After having coyly  
Breathed in  
The fragility of life  
The earth watched the land  
Shape itself  
Waters congealed  
Gasses began to dissolve  
Mountains began to quake  
And green blanketed all.  
As the almighty sun  
Opened its fearsome jaws  
The earth ran  
Further and further away  
From oblivion.  
The density of creation  
Comes from the understanding  
Of the unknown.  
Only the merely competent eye  
Can see worth  
And only the most forceful warrior  
Could feel pain.  
The eye of the storm  
Is buried deep  
Within the roar  
Of chaos.  
Uneasiness can be found  
In the chill  
Of the lagoon.  
Fears can rise  
From the most wholesome  
Of dreams.  
No one could be safe  
With minds like these.

## Mary

### Searching

The true goal of life  
Is created within  
Our own minds.  
We cannot accomplish goals without  
Our own voice,  
Our own vision,  
Our own imagination  
To discover how  
Much potential we have  
Winning at life  
Is a necessary achievement  
That is only found at a  
Rightful place of  
Mind, time, and discovery

### Stranger's Child

A woman of set goals  
Who is in control of her life  
Even when the journey gets rough.  
A clear-minded woman  
With a determined-to-finish mindset  
A quiet affection  
For her family, friends, and inspirations.

Though our fights are dangerous  
She's a true veteran  
Through thick and thin  
She takes care of me  
With a brilliant kindness  
And love as tall as a skyscraper.  
Even if we're apart  
She'll always have my heart  
My beautiful, enchanting sister.

### Life is Great

That excitement I get  
When my legs simply won't stop running  
And I feel as though I could keep going.  
The pastel colors  
Of the June night sky  
That light up the juicy watermelon I'm  
eating.  
The fragrance of red summer roses  
That bloom in my indoor garden.  
The rustle of pecan trees  
As the spring breeze hits them.  
Sounds of horseshoes clicking  
As I'm loping "Squirelly-Boy" around.  
The smiles of my best friends  
As I sing them happy birthday  
And watch them blow the candles out.  
The feeling that I get  
While I'm swimming in the pool  
Speeding my pace up  
And I can really feel the water.  
My kick is pushing  
My stroke is pulling  
And I simply feel like I can't go faster.

## Jonah

### Iron World

The earth is beautiful, whole and pure  
What have we done to it?  
The skies used to have cranes, pigeons, all colors of the rainbow.  
But now they're filled with planes and swarms of drones.  
The forests are miserable stumps, miles and miles of them.  
The flowers are all gone.  
Who needs flowers when a hologram can't die and  
Summer can live all year long.  
But does it even matter when our machines  
Control the weather forecast?  
You can easily requests a small shower  
And many never see snow.  
The skies are gray, dull and depressing  
So we built a sky so we can have a rainbow every day.  
The rural areas have mutated creatures  
Radioactive waste, and smell awful.  
So we built walls around our cities and made  
Robot guards to protect us.  
People are sometimes lonely  
So we made furry robots that sound like dogs.  
Who can tell the difference  
Since they're all dead now?  
This is my gloomy and pitiful world.  
Is it yours?

### Revival

At the patio, the artist's building is but a small garden  
And the gallery but a small shed.  
With every work carefully stacked  
To protect them from the elements they  
Dreaded and captured.  
On warm spring evenings the artists gather  
To see the revival of life touched by the frost.  
The self-fulfilling creatures having been in a deep slumber  
Rejoice in the morning dew  
Kissed by the sun and forever free.

### A Purpose

The snow gently cascades around you  
Gently in the cool morning  
The solitude of a teal blue fortress of  
ice.

The rustling of leaves as the wind brings  
Spring to take what was lost.

The lemon yellow light pierces the  
clouds and  
The crystal clear water in the lake.

The coal black bird with a mint leaf in  
its mouth  
Summer claims it with scorching wrath.

The noise is unbearable and  
Destruction reigns.  
But hope never dies in such disasters.

I have a job to do and I am unfulfilled  
Unsatisfied with pathetic disgraces  
And excuses.

I must surpass all incapability  
Or the worst will come to pass.

## Caitlyn

### Suffering

Our earth is suffering  
Creating an unstable environment  
for our animals  
Being forced out of their homes  
We've all seen the tragedies  
We know they're in pain  
But do we try to help them?  
No.  
We are saddened seeing the news  
But we continue to pollute  
We don't recycle  
We throw it in the trash  
Which ends up in the ocean.  
Our earth is becoming  
Our trash can.  
Everywhere you look  
Someone has littered.  
Our generation acts like they care  
But do they?  
Celebrities post on their social media  
But posting doesn't help  
We need to change our habits  
For the next generations  
We need to stop hurting our earth.  
It sounds complex to some  
But it's simple  
We should want to make the earth sustainable  
For the next generations  
And animals  
We need our world to change.

### The Reduction of Creativity

As people  
We mirror one person  
Or many.  
Most aren't comfortable  
Saying anything to anyone.  
We as people talk in a traditional  
State of mind as if it was a mode  
Our brain has been set to.  
If we finally distinguish  
Our own mind set  
People who have no originality  
Insistently point it out.  
The most striking  
Part is the  
Peculiar density of many minds.  
Serious conversations  
Are avoided but dense minds  
Bring long conversation  
With no creativity.  
Many want creativity  
But most don't have it.

### Trapped

I am trapped  
Within my emotions  
Unsure of what to think  
There is no escape  
The sad days  
Come and go  
But the pain still stays  
Some days are amazing  
Without sadness or fear  
But on some  
That's all I think about.  
My room is my favorite place  
If I am sad  
My room is there for me  
It won't leave  
As tears fall down my face  
My room stays  
Comforting me.  
Those fears taunt me  
It's not my fault  
But they won't leave.  
Fears taunt everyone  
Some can fight the fears  
Others begin trembling  
We need to think  
Before we speak.  
You don't know what pains  
People have been through  
One rude remark  
Could break someone's day  
But a compliment  
Would make it.  
Just think  
Before you speak.

## Soren

### Life to Live

There are many good things in this  
We live for the thrill of  
Cliff jumping  
The satisfaction of  
Completing a long, tiring project.  
The song that lifts you up,  
fills you with a warm feeling  
the breathtaking freedom  
of running through the cool mountain  
air.  
the excitement of scoring a goal  
in soccer.  
The happiness you feel  
When you play with your dog.  
The smell of fresh food made with love  
by my parents and my grandparents.  
The laughter  
Of just having fun while being an idiot  
And the taste of Oreos in milk,  
Cant' forget the Oreos.  
There will always be negativity.  
Disease  
Death  
Bullying  
But there is always more good than bad.  
Just remember  
You need a reason to be sad.  
You don't need a reason to be happy.

## Revelations

A final revelation  
Showed me the true eternal form.  
Showed me all that was  
Wrong and impossible.  
Too often  
We isolate objects  
Of real importance.  
We turn to the informing shadow  
Instead of the angelic center.  
We are influenced too easily  
Too ready to be neatly obliterated  
by the shadow.  
The shadow  
Represents the quick and easy path.  
Such as playing video games  
instead of  
studying for tests.  
What does that result in?  
Flunking school and having to get  
A lower paying job.  
We need to stop being so lazy  
And work hard  
To change the world  
Before it is too late  
All this was revealed to me  
In a spiritual vision.

world.

## Camping

The drive through  
Absolutely nothing  
Well, that's New Mexico for you.  
But,  
Once you reach the mountains  
Nature comes alive  
I walk out of the car  
Take in the fresh air  
The cool air  
The abundant amount of life.  
We take out the tent  
And put it up.  
Then we run off  
Exploring through the trees  
Taking in the sights  
And then night is upon us  
We go back to the tent  
Eat dinner  
Make a fire  
And just sit  
And talk  
And take in everything around us.  
As I look at the clear, starry sky  
I think, man,  
It would suck if we lost this  
beautiful place  
Let's try to take better care of  
Earth.

Caleb

Ancestry

As I grow and mature  
And make mistakes and  
Also accomplishments  
I think of myself and  
My parents as the reasons  
That I am here today.  
But should I be  
Thinking of more than them  
As the reasons?  
What about the generations  
And generations that led me  
Here today?  
All of the people that  
Sacrificed to make my  
life better and I don't  
even know most of their names.  
I should be more thankful  
For those who had a  
Hard life to make mine  
Easier.

Beautiful Planet

Earth.  
Our home that contains  
All we need in life.  
All of the food and water  
And materials that we will ever need.  
Our beautiful planet  
That has tulips and daisies and rose bushes.  
Our beautiful planet that has  
Robins and blue jays and finches.  
Our beautiful planet that we are killing.  
Our beautiful planet that has carbon  
Dioxide in the atmosphere and plastic  
In the ocean.  
Carbon dioxide and plastic  
That we put there.  
Our beautiful planet needs us  
To make a change in our lives  
So that she can keep hers.

Marisa R.

Truly Listen

When others try to speak  
Sometimes they are not heard  
People hear what they say  
But yet they do not listen  
Instead of being a good ear  
They don't listen, just hear  
They don't process  
what someone says  
They hear but don't listen  
Just awaiting their turn to speak  
Some people truly want to be heard  
To say something for a reason

Sometimes people yearn  
To have someone who cares  
To listen to all they have to share  
But people just think of themselves  
And what they want to say  
They want to be heard too  
Though instead of slowing down  
And considering what they say  
They don't wait their turn  
Or keep their own thoughts at bay

If we all took a moment  
To truly hear what others say  
Before announcing our thoughts  
So others can in turn truly  
Listen  
We could all be satisfied

Early Mornings

When the Sun has just risen  
It's so peaceful  
It is as if for a set amount of time  
Heaven has visited  
The shadows lie, resting  
The orange light welcomes  
And the cool, fresh air  
Fills the space  
Simple as can be  
Dew on grass, flowers, vines  
Colored clouds of orange, pink, and  
blue  
All is at peace, once again

The world is alive  
In its timing of shine  
This time when the earth can be happy  
With nothing to disturb it  
For but a couple hours  
A couple hours of heaven  
A couple hours of nothing but  
happiness

Mountains

Green pine trees  
With brown trunks  
Blue skies with puffy clouds of  
white  
Birds singing, trees swaying  
A soft, caressing breeze  
A trail of dirt following a curved  
path  
Up into the mountains  
A bear paw print  
With sharp claw imprints  
A clear, crystal flowing stream  
A firefly passing by  
A monarch butterfly  
Spreading its wings on a tree  
trunk  
The warm, comforting sun

A quiet night  
Soft clouds floating over the  
moon  
Nowhere like it.

## Cleofas

### Sparkling Smiles

The sparkling smiles of my siblings  
As I make them chocolate chip pancakes for breakfast  
The sunlight, thick like honey, soaking into my skin  
While riding my candied sky blue bike  
The sweet and tart taste of homemade lemonade  
The fresh and earthy smell  
Of a rainy day  
The pain in my sides  
From laughter with friends  
The increase in my heartrate  
As they announce first place  
The right embraces, smiles  
And tears of joy on my teammates' faces

These are the things I remember  
When I wonder why I'm alive

### The Strongest

For so long  
You can work effortlessly  
To try and make your life  
Just right  
But in just one moment  
Everything you know  
Can change  
To be inevitably  
What it was always meant to be  
No matter how horrible  
Which is why I think  
Waking up every day  
Is an extraordinary achievement  
Because to me  
Life is the most complex  
And unusual thing  
And those who appreciate every moment  
Are the strongest

## Kaden

### Why I Live

It's the early morning and the late nights of hunting  
The early sand dune rides  
When the morning dew sparkles on your helmet  
It's the adrenaline of  
Seeing the first legal buck of the day  
It's the last ten minutes of  
A soccer game  
Where time decides if you win or lose.  
It's the nights camping  
Where you can hear  
The birds chirruping and the stars twinkling  
It's waking up before the sun  
To go see the elk, deer, and Oryx.  
It's feeling like you're flying  
When you jump your 4-wheeler.  
It's the late nights putting my  
Baby cousins to bed.  
It's all the things combined  
Why I live.

### Changes

How the road has changed  
Since I was born  
The clouds are not  
Clouds anymore.  
They are smoke from  
All the factories.  
You can't go outside  
And play in the rain  
Because it's all turned into  
Acid rain.  
All the endangered animals  
That are going one by one  
People should stop throwing  
Trash on the ground  
One new article will not help  
We need people who will  
Actually help our situation.

## Macy

reasons to crave pulsation

it's the sensation of re-reading the feelings I have expressed in lower case  
to realize just how deep the emotions that run through my brain are  
and to feel such a rush exiting at each stage.  
hoping i grabbed the audience's attention with my ways of movement.  
To surprise myself with how many deep scars my heart can endure.  
It's to remember how many beautiful souls my sapphire eyes have beheld  
to use my voice in all its possible power for change.  
it's to feel chills run down my spine when I listen to cool tones  
to have fun, but to feel familiar with the depths of my words.  
to push myself to create something so beautiful to my eyes.  
It's the gratification that I feel when I complete each individual chapter of myself.  
I live to feel the warmth of the fiery gold citrine sun hit my back.  
I live to have a powerful rush through my veins—always.

runaway little one

little spots fall on the floor  
these have dripped from my core  
little tears falling down my face  
I feel as if i'm a disgrace  
ink is everywhere  
there is a cloud where the sun should be.  
the soul is ready to tear  
"i'm tired of this, it's no fun."  
sorry to tell you—  
but the nightmare has just begun.

purple rain is falling from the sky  
but it's not all i see when i go outside  
blue water is everywhere  
the eyes of fire have spoken.  
no more cost.  
your debt has been paid.  
"here's your token,  
never mind it's been delayed."  
try to breathe, not try to speak  
i'll sit down.  
cause you're weak.  
we will drown  
in this dark of deep.

runaway.little.one

## Dante

In Paradise

I am hoping  
That I'll shake Kobe Bryant's hand  
That I'll meet my great grandpa  
That I'll hug a grizzly bear.

I am hoping  
That I'll play tag with my friend in a wheelchair  
That I'll be able to cross the world without having to pay  
That we'll be relieved from pain, sickness, and death.

I am hoping  
That my grandparents are young again  
That my parents are young again  
That I'll be with my family in peace.

We Love the Earth

We all need the Earth  
We need it to plant our food  
We need it for water  
We need it for air.

Some of us "we help the Earth"  
But only some of that is true  
Because some of us don't help the Earth at all  
And some of us do.

People throw pollution in the ocean  
People use factories that release carbon  
Soon we will be the cause of our own end.

## Xavier

Wow

I fly in a plane  
And I look down  
To see smoke pouring out  
Of factories below

I drive in a car  
To see trash  
Plastic and paper  
Soaring in the wind

I ride my bike  
To see small wrappers  
Broken glass and graffiti  
On the walls and ground

I walk down a street  
And I see our planet  
Slowly dying in front of me

While us humans just watch  
While us humans make it worse  
While us humans forget about  
How important our planet is

And all I can say is  
Wow, what a mess

What I'm Waiting For

I am waiting  
To win the lottery  
So I can help my parents financially

I am waiting  
For my career as a lawyer  
So I can help people and earn money

I am waiting  
To succeed in soccer  
And be better than I am

I am waiting  
For a call from God  
Assuring mine and my family's spot in  
heaven

I am waiting  
For my grandma's life  
To return to normal

I am waiting  
For my 3-story mansion  
With everything I want

I am waiting  
For the world's pollution  
To disappear

I am waiting  
For my own green Lamborghini  
Aventador SV  
To drive and race with

I am waiting  
I am hoping  
I am dreaming.

## Austin

### I Prefer

I prefer texting over talking  
I prefer being shy  
I prefer walking over running  
I prefer working hard to hardly working  
I prefer technology over books  
I prefer being quiet  
I prefer knocking on wood  
I prefer to leave early before it gets crazy  
I prefer the color blue  
I prefer work over school  
I prefer dark eyes  
I prefer episodes over long movies

### The Earth Needs Saving

Scorching hot temperatures  
Gases stuck in our atmosphere  
Are we overweighing Mother Nature?  
Nobody really cares  
The Earth will need some air-conditioning soon  
Before we run out of time  
We are out of control with our factory smoke  
I think we should probably fear  
Our planet is in a climate emergency  
And we need 9-1-1  
Before it becomes a little too late  
And we have no planet to sleep on

### I am Waiting

I am waiting for  
A long distance call from Ellen Pompeo  
To tell me to try hard  
And become what I want

I am wishing  
To get out of school  
And rent my own apartment

I am looking forward for  
A chance to travel to Jupiter  
And fall through its colorful gas

I am craving for  
The Loch Ness monster  
To come out of the lake and  
Laugh at me, saying  
The people were right,  
I am real  
Don't tell anyone

I am anticipating  
Becoming the chief of surgery  
At the Seattle Grace Hospital

I am wishing for  
A big penthouse with a view  
Of the Space Needle and enough  
Space for me, my dog, and my fish

I am craving for  
The government to stop replacing  
People's jobs with robots

I am looking forward to  
Australia and the Amazon to stop burning  
and for greenhouse gases to  
Stop rising

I am waiting for the  
Corona virus to disappear  
And stop making people die

## **Eliana**

### Calm

There's a spark  
A glister in the distance  
One world is cold  
One world is hot

There's always a place  
Where two worlds touch  
The doorway in between  
Where it's calm

There's peace and harmony  
Everyone gets along  
How I wish the world  
Was, like,  
Calm.

### A Dream

When I have a dream  
I want to do it  
I want to achieve it  
I don't want to have  
Any regrets when I'm older  
So I say to the future me  
If you have a dream  
Do it even if it's crazy  
All that I'm saying is  
Don't give up on your dreams.

### What Can We Do?

Our world is going under  
The air is polluted  
The water is filled with plastic and trash  
The greens are dying  
The animals go with it too  
So what can we do?

The forests are burning  
Acid pouring from the sky  
Our crops are dying  
With every single day  
Burning temperatures throughout the day  
So what can we do?

What can we do?  
We ask ourselves  
Clean the ocean, electric cars  
Recycle and reuse, that's  
What we need  
That's what we can do

## Samantha

### Powerless

I feel powerless  
I feel mute lie I'm  
Being held down by a  
Heavy chain.  
Little by little it  
Starts to get a bit  
Better but before I  
Know it I'm back where  
I started.  
I feel I have no purpose in life.  
I feel I have a thousand  
Problems but people  
Would say otherwise.  
I want to change the world  
But I can only leave a mark.  
I feel powerless.

### My Love

My love, I miss you  
I miss the way you smile.  
The way you looked  
At me for a while.  
I miss the way you held me  
I miss that voice of yours  
That you used to say you loved me.  
I miss those pretty eyes you had  
I feel so lovesick, you  
Hurt me so bad.  
I miss those silly  
Jokes you made.  
It makes me feel like I  
Want to fade.  
I miss that laugh you did  
I can feel it slip away.  
I wish I had another moment  
With you, even if for  
One more day.  
You said you wanted this  
For me so I will have to stay.  
I miss you my love  
Don't let those words go away.

### I am Waiting

I am waiting for  
A call from my grandma  
Asking me how I'm doing.  
I am waiting for  
A car that I can drive  
And hand out with friends in.  
I am waiting for a trip to Seoul, South Korea.  
I am waiting for  
Wonder Woman to come  
And tell me to change.  
I am waiting for  
A chance to become a singer.  
I am waiting  
For a cozy 2-story house.  
I am waiting  
For a day when there are  
No more bullies.  
I am waiting for Roswell  
To become big and fun.  
I am waiting for  
That big, cozy hoody.  
I am waiting for  
That boy who loves me for me  
And not anything else.  
I am waiting for  
A Tesla that I can drive.  
I am waiting for my dog  
That died last year to come and see me.  
I am waiting for  
Criminals to disappear.  
I am waiting for Jesse Owens to come  
And knock on my door.  
I am waiting for a  
Million dollar prize from  
America's Got Talent.

Mason D.

Life

Real life  
Is like a beach  
With an evening sky  
And a rising high tide  
The peaceful darkness is  
Suddenly thrown to the side  
By waves as tall as the mountains  
This street to follow through life  
The road leading you through life  
If can follow this road through  
You can find what your life means

Wanting

I am wanting for  
An artist that I look up to  
To come and help with my art

A story to write  
That will feel almost real  
When you read it  
But fake when you describe it

A wish of mine  
For life to be easier  
For enemies and wars not to exist

Another wish  
That my loved ones  
Will always be at my side

Wanting  
Wishing  
Hoping

That these wishes and wants to come  
true  
For me not to be alone in this world  
For life to get easier instead of harder  
For everything to be okay  
These are my wishes  
These are my wants

I just have one more with  
To tell you today

I wish  
To be home

## Mason H.

### I Am Waiting For

The New Mexico hunt draw results to be posted  
A chance at the monster buck that roams the salt cedars  
A call from Robert Arrington saying,  
"You've won a deep sea fishing trip with me!"  
The opportunity for a shot on a beautiful bobcat  
School to be out for the weekend so I can go fishing and hunting

### I am longing for

The moment I walk up on one of my traps with a bobcat in it  
To go on an African Plains Game Hunt  
To own some land in the mountains of southern Arizona  
To catch a 50 pound mahi-mahi off the coast of Jupiter, Florida

### I am hoping for

The chance to visit Alaska for hunting moose and caribou  
The custom hunting rifle of my dreams  
The opportunity to set more traps  
And the chance to live my dream

### A Dream Deferred

A dream deferred  
Is like a life on hold  
A life on hold  
Is like a dream deferred

Always keep your dream in front of you  
Never put your dreams aside  
Never fear that your dream might die

For you should always keep your dream  
Held tight  
And you will live your dream  
Until the day you die

### I am Myself

I am  
From Roswell, New Mexico, USA  
Calm, quiet sunny days  
Country music playing and people dancing

I am  
From living in the moment  
Not just holding on to the past  
Free wild country  
Feeling the wind trying to slow me down  
But I keep pushing

I am  
From the promise of hope and life  
From never give up  
And praise the lord

I am  
From steak and potatoes  
French-fries and over-easy eggs  
Apples, cantaloupe and salad

I am  
From muddy rivers  
Land filled with salt cedars  
From sagebrush and cool skies

I am American  
I am New Mexican  
Proud

## Nathan

### Art of the Marshmallow

The marshmallow  
Roasted to golden perfection  
Warm, puffy, and perfect  
Giving off a heavenly perfume  
Some people like putting on inventive spins  
Golden ponds of topping on top  
Pressed between crackers, chocolate,  
Anything else  
Really, it looks fantastic  
So if you'd excuse me  
I'd like to go have some marshmallows  
Myself

### Thawing the World's Frozen Heart

What would we do if the world were ending?  
If we were burning up with desire?  
If the world were enveloped in fire?  
What would we do if the world were ending?  
If we were freezing up with hate?  
The world frozen in destructive ice?  
What would we do if the world were ending?  
If volcanoes were erupting and  
Asteroids were falling, war was raging?  
What if bombs were exploding, rockets  
Were firing, natural disasters occurring?  
What would we do if the world were ending?

Am I speaking metaphorically?  
That question is for you,  
Not me.

### Drippity-Droppity

Sparkling  
Shining  
Beautiful  
Neat  
Falling  
Dippity-droppity  
Clippidy-cloppity  
Splish-splashing on the ground  
Gently falling  
Pouring aggressively  
Depending on the day  
Covering the earth  
This water spilling  
Providing life to everything  
Each drop like a crystal  
Shining bright  
Looking up at the clouds  
A nice bluish gray  
Simply providing the earth  
With the nourishment it needs  
Yes, the rain  
Dippity-droppity  
Clippidy-clppity  
Splish-splashing on the ground.

## Carper

### My Fishing Dream

I am waiting for:

That one 10 pound bass to bite my bait

So that I can reel him in

And show off to all my friends

A chance to meet the whole Googan squad

A chance to make that one perfect crankbait

A chance to make my own line of fishing lures

I am hoping for:

A YouTube channel about fishing with one million subscribers

A chance to go deep sea fishing in the Bahamas

A chance to go fishing for Red Fish and Snook

In the Florida Everglades

A chance to go to fish the Amazon

And catch tons of different species of fish

I am looking forward:

For a chance to fly fish for trout in Wyoming

A chance to fly fish for salmon in Alaska

So that I can drive all over the country

And just fish roadside ponds and creeks

### The Wind

The Wind is a beautiful thing

It carries dust hundreds of miles

It howls at the sky

It brings in the storms

It blows through the prairie grass

It makes my hair flow

The Wind isn't always great

But sometimes brings good things

God bless the Wind.

### What It's Like Fishing

The water smooth and calm

Fish jumping everywhere

The sun out

It's warm

My line in the water

Cranes flying overhead

There's a slight breeze

I've caught 3 bass

It's a beautiful day

I thank the Lord every day

Because I can fish.

Yearning

I am yearning for a sign  
Something, anything to tell me  
What to do with myself.  
I am yearning for a chance  
A chance to prove my friends  
Family and myself wrong.  
I am yearning for hope  
Hoping I won't forget  
And won't be forgotten.  
I am yearning for love  
Care and affection from  
The ones I adore.  
I am yearning for a home  
Somewhere I can go  
A place of my own  
I am yearning for calm  
When the storm dies down  
And the harmed can rest.  
I am yearning for a dream  
A goal to achieve  
Something that defines me.

Falling

We are falling  
Falling into despair  
Falling into agony  
Falling into our demise  
Why?  
When will we realize  
Our home is dying  
Slowly rotting away  
From our wrong-doings?  
The world cannot fix itself  
We have to give in  
Undo all the damage  
That we did.  
Why?  
Why haven't we acted?  
Plants and animals suffering  
Environments collapsing  
Falling

Empty

Why?  
The beating, the sting  
Throbbing scars?  
Bruised wings  
Blood on cruel bars?  
Why?  
Looking out on the hills  
Only to imagine the thrill?  
Dreams of flying free  
Gliding in the sky joyfully?  
Free yourself, break the cage  
Leave your empty shell behind  
You will never know what you can  
do  
If you don't run away and fly  
Don't stay  
Just to slowly, steadily rot away  
The only thing left  
Broken dreams, an array

Noah

The Light

Art is the Light of all life  
It can shine in you like the sun through the window  
With colors blood red and ocean blue  
It is hard to deny  
Art is the root to all life  
It is really the only dream

My Dream

I started off  
Wanting to be in the NFL or NBA  
Or in the MLB  
I dreamed to see this day

I wanted to be drafted  
I wanted to play  
I was willing to work  
To see this day

I felt as if this  
Was unachievable  
I switched my game plan  
To become a business owner

Noah's Bait and Tackle  
Was the business I'd become  
This dream perished  
When I got old

Now I want  
To become a PT  
And to this day  
This is what I'll be

Gabriella M.

Secrets

The wind in the morning has secrets to share  
Secrets about land  
Secrets about somewhere in between  
Secrets about you  
Secrets about me  
Secrets about something you see  
Secrets that scare you  
Secrets that calm you  
Secrets that don't want to bother you

WHAT SECRETS DO YOU HAVE TO SHOW?  
TELL THE WORLD IF YOU WANT THEM TO KNOW!

My Hunger

I am waiting for a long distance call from my cousin to say "hi"  
I am waiting for a car that drives on land and sea  
I am waiting for a chance to drive that car  
I am waiting for a big house and lots of animals  
I am waiting for a chance to be a farm vet  
I am waiting for a chance to earn the world record  
"Most Dogs Owned"  
I am craving a bean and cheese burrito  
I am craving a nice taco salad with salsa  
I am waiting for dinner

Pollution

I am pollution  
I get into your air  
Destroy your lungs

I get into your soil  
No more trees

I kill off animals  
No more food

I am a destroyer  
If I become too great  
There will be nothing left

Marco

Hoping on the Future

I am hoping to become a good and responsible adult  
I am hoping for a barn-style house  
I am hoping to become an architect  
To design houses and buildings  
I am hoping to have a respectful wife and kids  
I am hoping that I will be able to afford  
a custom Ferrari 488 Pista Spider  
I am hoping that the people of the world realize  
We need to take care of our planet  
I am hoping to meet Muel Neuer  
And to practice with him and get some goalie tips  
I am hoping that all of this will come true.

Isaac

Life

People can't accomplish anything  
But are forever determined to do everything  
The crippled are wise  
The plants are going to die  
Life is a heavy chain

Believe

Can you believe everything could be red?  
As we just sit in our bed?  
Do you think we will look like Mars?  
Because of our cars and wars?  
This is pollution.  
We need a solution

## Serena

Rather

I'd rather leave early  
than stay late

I'd rather have no homework  
Than homework

I'd rather have my hair the way it is  
Than a different length or shade

I'd rather have my parents  
Than any other parents

I'd rather wake up later  
Than earlier

I'd rather have my teachers  
Than any other teachers

I'd rather have my life  
Than any other life.

## Running Out

Water, there isn't  
A lot of it.  
Water, don't waste it.  
Water, we need  
More of it.  
Water, we need to  
Better conserve it.

## Hope

I am hoping for an Apple wristwatch.  
I am hoping for a long distance call from  
Jennifer Lopez.  
I am hoping for my grandpa to reappear.  
I am hoping for my knee pain to disappear.  
I am hoping for a chance to travel to Bora Bora.  
I am hoping for something like zip lining  
That I want to do but I'm not able to.  
I am hoping to be a pharmacist.  
I am hoping for a big house with 2 levels in LA.  
I am hoping to be able to go back to gymnastics.  
I am hoping for all A's this semester.

Who Am I?

I am from Albuquerque  
But my family is originally from Michigan  
My favorite music is rap

I am  
From the words  
“Keep trying, don’t give up, you can do it”  
From the feeling of never giving up  
I am from the promise of always being there  
From “never stop”  
“Try your best”

I am  
From eggs and bacon  
Grilled chicken, steak  
Apples, bananas, rice, pork

I am from a classic  
Old house of stucco  
From mountains and crazy weather

I am New Mexican  
Albuquerque  
Proud

Mistake

All around us  
There is pollution  
Cars, trucks, buses  
What can we do?  
Pollution here  
Pollution there  
We just don’t know who  
Forests that take a thousand years to develop  
Burned in a minute  
All because of a mistake we made in a second

Dreams

Dreams  
They can fall apart  
They can be fulfilled.  
But are they real?

They can be on track  
And then be taken away.  
They can seem impossible  
And then happen.

They can go uphill  
And go back down.  
You could expect them  
Or they can be unexpected.

They could be in reach  
Or you could be longing.  
You could have it in your grasp  
And then it could slip away.

We all have dreams  
But we can’t always get  
What we want.

## Savino

### Things I Prefer

I prefer red  
I prefer light eyes  
I prefer meat  
I prefer baseball and basketball  
I prefer Dr. Pepper, tea, and water  
I prefer customized shoes and laces  
I prefer PS\$  
I prefer hypebeast  
I prefer white pants  
I prefer a gaming chair

## Jesus

### What Happens to a Dream?

Does it become true or just  
Die off for money not for  
How passionate you are?

Does the dream that you don't do  
Become a regret because you  
Did something for money?

Does the dream become the best  
Thing you have done for your life or family?

Or does the dream just go away  
Because you have found a new dream  
That you're passionate about?

### I Prefer

I prefer fishing as an outdoor activity.  
I prefer fishing for rainbow trout.  
I prefer using a powerbait to catch trout.  
I prefer the Rio Grande to fish.  
I prefer a Zebco button press reel.  
I prefer an ugly stik rod.  
I prefer garlic scent for powerbait.  
I prefer eating rainbow trout.  
I prefer stren 6 pound test line monofilament.  
I prefer a bigger tackle box.  
I prefer fishing onshore.  
I prefer putting weights on to cast farther.

## Alex

Ignite

The Earth is our home  
Home to the forgotten  
Home to the animals  
Home to all life

The Earth shares  
Shares trees, shade  
Shares food, water  
Shares with all

We are selfish  
We are mean  
We don't appreciate all  
The Earth does for us

So I am tired sitting here  
Just watching the Earth disappear  
We need to do something  
Ignite and help please

I'm Sorry

I'm sorry, plants, I littered  
I'm sorry, air, I polluted  
I'm sorry, trees, you're working hard  
Just to make these lungs breathe

My heart feels bad  
Because I was mean  
Humans try to be the ones in charge

We try to control  
We force if needed  
We are the problem and  
You need a solution

I am sorry for you  
Torturing you  
To get what I needed.

## My Hopes and Dreams

I am wishing my biological dad would tell me he loves me for who I am.

I am wishing to drive a brand new white jeep.

I am wishing to go to New York City to see the Statue of Liberty and Fashion Week.

I am wishing for Lex Luther to appear and say do evil

I am wishing that someone would offer me a job as a professional dancer.

I am longing to live in a two story house in LA with a pool in the backyard.

I am hoping to get an award for dancing.

I am wishing my dancing might make others feel happy and have positive thoughts

To feel the need to do something kind for another

I am wishing for my great great grandfather to come back and hug me tight with love

I am wishing for pollution to disappear in a blink of an eye

So that the plants can grow back

And clean the air for animals and humans to return

I am wishing for Amelia Earhart to knock on my door

And tell me to stay strong

Even when life is hard, to keep going.

Avery W.

Enough

I can see it now  
you're done with the talking  
the words, enough sentences.  
Your eyes speak a thousand  
words, as if asking for a fragrant passageway.  
Your movements, so tentative, through  
the night, the peaceful darkness, as if anything  
you do will break what you have gained.  
Oh your voice, like the  
spring trembling, when you try to  
explain yourself.  
Will you ever say  
Enough to everything?

Not for the Glory

I do not make art with my hands  
I make art with my mind.  
  
He does not stay to practice for glory  
He stays to practice to break his records.  
  
She does not study all night for the fun of it  
She studies all night to make it where she  
wants in life.  
  
They who do it for only praise  
Don't make it far.

Three Parts

Man is one part curiosity and  
Two parts insanity

We thrive for the feeling of  
understanding  
As if it would make us whole

We eradicate all that stands  
In our way of truth

Our goal is to evolve  
But how can we evolve when we are  
Grounded to only "truth"?

Knowing is our drug  
And we are addicted.

## Amber

### Colors

Pick me up, open me, and look inside  
Look at the colors I hold  
It's ok to touch my brush  
It might not be as soft and smooth as  
It used to be  
But use me and let your imagination take over.

Use my brush and dip it in water.  
I am sorry if my colors aren't full and  
Clean as they once were.  
Once you're done, put my brush back  
Close me up after you use me so I don't dry out  
I'm sorry if my cover is bumpy, cracked, and chipped.

It's not my fault, it was my past owner  
He was careless and ruined me.  
But I promise to bring you joy.

### Forgive Me

I've ruined your shoes  
The white ones that were so clean  
I was painting and I went into your room  
And dropped my brush.

If it makes you feel better  
I dropped red paint, your favorite color.  
If you ask me, I think the red paint  
Goes great with your shiny white shoes.

Elsa

## Roswell

Roswell is known as the land of enchantment.  
There are museums, statues, woodcarvings, and gift shops about aliens.  
Roswell is a pretty small and calm place.  
Going downtown, you see visitors walking and taking pictures  
Roswell is an interesting place to visit, but not to live in!

## Alone

I turn off all the lights from my room  
And all I see is darkness  
The violin I hold in my hands  
Shines bright like a diamond

I play the beautiful notes one by one  
Forming a song  
I feel glad to be alone  
And have time for myself

I open my eyes and I'm a violinist  
I stand on stage  
And people sitting in the theater listen to my song  
I stand there and look around  
All I can hear is silence  
I look at my arms and all I see is bones

## Jordan

### The Painting

I am a painting  
I am watched by all but  
Noticed by few  
I am simple yet  
Extravagant  
Most see me as just a painting  
But others see me as  
An entire world  
I am shown off as an expensive  
Painting but  
The boy who painted me  
Was poor

### This is Me

Find me on the ground  
Feel my jagged edges  
And smooth sides  
  
Look at my  
Grimy crevices  
And see through  
My sheer body  
  
I was found in a cave  
Near the surface  
Of a dormant volcano

Someone picked me up  
Because they thought I  
had a perfectly shaped  
body and looked  
Preternatural

You might put me  
In your jewelry to  
Impress other people  
So next time you see me  
Think about what  
I am

## Connor

### A Better World

Imagining a better world  
Stopping pollution  
I'm making a factory  
That will help this world  
I'm in the mood to make this place  
A better world  
Around me it will turn green  
I'm a business man, and I  
Look like a business man  
Gears and smokestacks on my head  
A green tie made out of leaves

## Michael

### China

I am in the  
Middle of a river  
On a rock playing my lute  
I am in the middle  
Of the mountains when  
A lady appears from nowhere  
The lady is dressed in a red dress  
Holding a Chinese lantern  
She looks like she has descended  
As a spirit  
Her name is  
Chwang, she is my  
Mother in a spirit form  
Chwang is telling me to listen  
And is whispering to me  
I think it's real  
But when I wake up  
It was all just a dream

### Card Maze

Two loved ones  
Are in a maze  
Made of heart cards  
  
Two loved ones  
Are trying to find  
Their way into each other's heart  
  
One starts on  
One side and the other  
Starts on the other side  
  
They try to find each other  
And find the way into  
Each other's heart  
  
I am one of the loved ones  
Dressed in a blue suit and  
Peacock cape  
Finding my future wife  
In a red dress

**Avery I.**

I'm sorry dad

I'm sorry I licked your deodorant

But you did not need it for anything  
It looked so good and tasty  
And I was only 3

I'm sorry again!  
I know it disturbed you  
I know you needed to call poison control.

Baking

That smell, yum  
When my grandma is baking  
I help her mix the batter  
And put the cookies in the oven  
That smell, yum!  
Vanilla, Lavender  
Tasty, good  
Brownies, cookies, baking  
Baking is what I loved most!  
When they're cooking  
It's the longest 10 to 15 minutes of my life  
My stomach grumbles  
Then the oven beeps!  
And I take a tasty bite

## Bridget

### Friend of Birds

You see me  
I know you do  
A lonely girl  
Walking by herself in the setting sun  
I know you think that  
But the truth is I am not lonely  
The herons around me are my friends  
They rest on my shoulders  
On my head  
In my hands

I walk along the earthen floor  
The breeze blowing in my face  
My golden dress billows with the breeze  
The herons rest on me  
For there are no trees around  
I am their home

I love the beautiful orange sky  
As the sun is setting  
It always stays the same  
Do not pity me  
For I am happy

### Horses

Horses, horses, beautiful and bold  
Manes like silver and coats shining gold  
Running free and wild in the wind  
Looking like they are going towards the world's end  
Horses, horses, beautiful and bold  
Manes like silver and coats shining gold

### World of Me

I sit still now  
But I wasn't always like that  
I was opened and enjoyed by many  
people  
Not as many people use me anymore  
Many people have picked me up  
Many people have sat down and laid  
me across their legs  
I am rough and tattered now  
But once I was smooth and soft  
I am made of many pieces  
Pieces that are well worn from being  
turned and flipped  
My cover was once gleaming and  
smooth  
Don't judge me by my cover though  
I have many stories to tell  
I have pictures and words to tell you  
the stories  
Sometimes I help you  
Sometimes I entertain you  
On my cover I have beautiful  
decorations all around  
Golden words tell you what I am  
So open me up and enjoy

Knockout Punch

It's my first boxing match  
And I have butterflies in my stomach  
And I'm really really nervous

I walk into the arena  
And it's really loud  
There's a ton of people  
Standing in the crowd

I put my gloves on  
And I step into the ring  
The referee says "GO"  
And now the fight is on.

My opponent runs  
And punches me in the face  
And with one punch  
I'M OUT

I go home  
And put some ice on my head  
And think to myself  
"Dang, that fight was rough."

Not So Good Day in the Woods

We are taking a trip to the forest  
It was my brothers, two friends and I  
I love the clean crisp pine smell of the forest  
And I love the light blue sky  
We are playing by the stream when we thought  
Of an idea  
We said, Let's make a fort  
So we started collecting sticks  
I see a stick that would help with our fort  
So I grab the stick that's connected to a tree  
And I bend the stick back to separate it from the tree  
I hear a crack, so I let it go  
The stick shot forward and hit me in the face  
I fall to the ground, out cold.

Abandoned Car

I'm a Slug Bug in the jungle  
And I'm covered in grass  
My paint is getting dull  
And my windows don't have glass

My owner is a criminal  
He tried to rob a school  
He did it for the money  
Because he thought it would be cool

When the cops showed up  
He panicked and drove me away  
He started speeding up  
And we stopped at the bay

When the cops lost us  
We drove to the jungle  
He said, "Nobody will find us here."

We arrived at the jungle  
And parked next to a log  
We stayed there for a night  
He covered me in grass  
And said, "Here's your camouflage."

## Grant

### Thanksgiving Dinner

We sit, we eat, and we drink  
I smell all the food  
And the apple cider  
I play with my little cousins  
We play board games  
And in the treehouse  
Until our grandparents say  
“Time for dessert”  
We all rush inside  
And I smell all the desserts  
Frosted sugar cookies and  
Chocolate cake  
I feel warm as soon as I step in the house  
I sit down and I get all the desserts  
That I can  
They all tasted so sweet.

### My Qualities

Yearning to play my guitar  
Essays I do all right on  
Only a bit tall  
Love my family  
And my dog, her name is Sophie  
My family says I'm funny  
Taking a break from baseball  
Now I'm back to work  
And I do well in science and math  
Rivals are my friends  
Grant Maloney is my name

## Mackenzie

### Coffee

Grandma and I were going through cabinets  
We found 5 of 6 coffee containers  
I smelled all of them  
My grandma is a coffee-holic  
She had cinnamon, original, hazelnut, and dark  
We tried all of them  
Some of them were decent  
After that we made hot cocoa and popcorn  
Then we watched a movie  
The cocoa was much better than the coffee

### Bird Lady

My name is Crystal  
People think I am weird  
I talk to a baby crane  
I live in Japan  
I love the birds who talk to me  
They have names: Jack, Iowa, and Tina  
I usually talk to them at sundown  
And sunrise  
I have no friends except the birds  
I am the bird lady  
My magnificent dress  
Fades from orange to green  
I have a beautiful gem in the middle  
I am the bird lady

## Isabel

### Boy on a Thread

It is twilight with light clouds  
Moon looking as if it was honey  
Sneaking out that night  
Right on the tip of the roof  
A magical thread, able to float in the air  
The thread was quite thick  
Once I started  
I was half way on the floating thread  
But I stopped, why did I stop?  
Maybe because my bare feet were irritated  
But not, it's not that  
I recognize someone  
Even if it's not the person I was looking for  
It was the moon, it was my love  
And her name was Luna  
Right before her last breath she said to me,  
"I am the moon."  
And every night just to get the right angle  
I'd use the thread  
To see my moon, my moon  
I'm the boy on the thread

### Enjoy Me

You might know me as something you eat  
I'm delicious to others and heaven to most  
I have vibrant colors of red, orange, and  
yellow when I'm ripe  
And a dark green when I'm overripe.

Some people buy me from the store  
Some grow me  
Which I prefer because humans put a  
disgusting chemical on me  
Which kills my friends, the bugs.

I can be sweet and juicy and sometimes  
really sour  
And my favorite place to be is in sweet  
sticky rice  
With creamy coconut drizzled on top  
Even though I'm the food  
Sometimes I even get a taste of myself  
Enjoy me while I last  
Because I can go bad.

## Lorelei

Life of Me

Each bead  
Carefully stitched  
Designed to look like flowers  
And when you bought me  
I was overjoyed

Hold me  
Feel my soft smooth silk  
You can trust me  
Give me your money  
I will keep it safe

My beaded handle you hold  
Wearing your long  
Black satin dress  
To match me  
As you go to the prom

My clasp is silver  
Like your silver earrings  
You give me your perfume  
And make-up so you can put it on  
Later

Give me your precious possessions  
I will hold them  
Keep them safe  
You can trust me

## Piano

Walking up the mountain  
In my dress  
Long and pearly white  
I sit down on the bench  
And begin to play  
To play the piano  
Floating above the rocks  
I am a girl  
A girl touching the sky  
A girl who is so happy  
She feels like she is home  
It is bright here  
Clouds swirling around me  
On this mountain  
I am playing  
Playing the piano  
Playing the song  
An eagle's view  
My name is Crysanthah

## Potato Salad

Outside with my grandma  
Grass stains on our jeans  
Wearing sun visors and sun screen  
On our hands and knees  
Plucking carrots and potatoes  
My grandma giving me a lesson  
About what to pick  
And what not to pick  
Inside we wash the carrots  
And the potatoes  
Chopping them up  
Putting them in boiling water  
And making  
A nice, cool, tasty  
Potato Salad!

## Lilah

### A Cold Winter Day

It is a cold day  
My mom is at work  
My dad, my siblings, and I are at home  
I call my mom  
And I ask her to build a fire when she gets home  
She says, no, it's warm in the house  
So my dad, my siblings, and I start opening all the doors  
Then we open all the windows too  
And the cold air comes rushing in  
When my mom gets home she builds a fire  
The fire is warm and comforting  
The fire smells great  
And looks even better  
I can hear the fire crackle  
That's why I love winter days

### Typical Tween

Short, not tall at all  
Sweats and a t-shirt are the best  
On my feet I wear Nike AFIs  
Roses are great but I like tulips more  
Happy on some days  
Athletic, not me  
Lots of time spent on my phone  
I love tacos and pizza too  
Laughing with my friends all the time

### Forceful Smile

As I buy a smile  
No one feels a change  
I wear it for a day  
Still no change

I think we need to change  
But most people stay the same  
Stuck in this world  
Of mournful people

Wish this could end  
But it won't  
We are just stuck here  
Playing this game  
Stuck on repeat

## Brisa

### 12 Year-Old Weirdo

Zucchini's are disgusting, like cucumbers  
Until the day I day, I will never eat any of those vegetables  
I wear my comfy clothes all day  
Rather than working, I'll sleep  
A thick brown chunk of hair on my head  
Scrunchie on my wrist  
Interesting personality people find weird  
Running can be tiring  
But my spirit isn't!

### A Race

Zip up my jacket  
Unbuckle my seatbelt  
I cover my head with my hood  
Running to the door  
A heavy bag on my back  
Someone finally opens the door  
I come rushing in  
Rushing to take off my bag and jacket  
But my sister beat me to the bathroom

### Flower Love

My love for anyone  
is measured  
by a flower  
I've never found  
true love so  
my flower is always small  
the flower is stuck  
in a room in my house until  
the day I die  
one day I find out  
my parents bought  
something furry for me  
it was a  
fluffy German Shepherd  
small as a tissue box  
just days after  
I've played and played  
With it 24/7  
My parents yelled  
for me to  
check my flower  
I scream in happiness!  
my flower's huge!  
The flower takes up  
almost all  
the room!  
It's all because  
of my favorite  
little furball  
my true love  
doesn't have  
to be a someone  
Just a something!

Andrew

Azure

Seeing incredibly far distances isn't my specialty  
Although this may be true, I am swift on my feet  
Lately I am running faster and increasing my ability to run longer  
And azure blue is my favorite color  
See, I enjoy both winter and summer, but winter more  
Now it is 1:45 p.m. while I write this  
Overall, I enjoy hands-on activities  
Recall my previous line, it is 1:53 p.m. as I write this  
Ants are my favorite insect  
Although I am average size, I prefer to be a touch bit smaller  
With glasses I am blind  
Even though I use the bow, the snow prevents it  
Recall the bow, its arrows are made by yours truly  
Designs and sketches, I am magnificent at  
Now it is time to reveal some of my preferred names  
*Azure*, of course, and *The Winter Knight*, manifestly

Maybe

(maybe) I have shot an arrow  
Into the tree beyond my own fence  
  
(maybe) It was wrong of me to do this  
(maybe) It was satisfying to see the arrow fly  
  
I ask for forgiveness  
(maybe) that will be a long shot.  
  
(maybe) I could have injured a person or pet  
Even though there was no one over there  
Plus, I aimed at the tree  
  
I understand the dangers of my actions  
Could affect someone (no one).  
But at the end of the day  
I ask for forgiveness

The First Encounter

I dare not move  
I make no sound  
I'm soon placed into a box-like container  
Where others are similar to me  
It was as strange as seeing about 20  
Images of myself  
The same silky-white color  
The same crystal-like body  
The same transparent sides that appear carved  
The same soft and rough sides  
Yet all appeared different shapes than me  
I dare not speak  
For my curse is to stay this way  
For an eternity and a day.

Hard Way

I see the roaring river  
My heart beats fast  
If I fall, I'll be in the river  
I see the golden gorge walls around me  
Beside me the rushing river  
Wanting to eat me up  
Through my house is over yonder  
I took the hard way home  
Now I'm in danger

Feel the Heat

I was picked in a field in Roswell, NM  
Then I was brought to a supermarket where you bought me  
After I was diced and mixed with onion, garlic, and tomato  
Eat me  
Feel the heat!

You dip chips in me  
You put me on various food  
Tacos, enchiladas, guacamole, and tostadas  
My heat is like a Roswell summer day  
As hot as lava  
Like the heat from a fireplace

Horses

The horse in his pen lying down  
A captive waiting to be fed  
A horse that wants to be set free

The horse and I are much the same  
I am cooped up in my room lying down  
I just want to get out of the house and play outside  
I wait to get fed at lunch, cooped up at school

## Alejandro

Expired in Space

Space has limited  
Time and I'm the one who enforces it  
Unless you pay me

When the aliens in  
White suits come  
They call themselves  
Hoomans

Rarely anyone comes  
To the moon  
The only company I have  
Is the green and blue  
Circle in the sky

## The Man

They call me a rust bucket  
Because I'm so old  
A milk jug for a face  
And sharp knives for hands  
Rusted nails, wooden legs  
Even a ripped up jacket

I'm not perfect  
I'm a scarecrow  
My expression is sadness  
I can never change that  
Stuffed with hay  
My owner built me to scare crows  
But left me

The mountains are yellow  
Dying of dehydration  
The sky filled with gray clouds  
The crops that are left  
Are nothing but rotten tomatoes

Gabby S.

### Adventures and Roses

All day I stay at home doing homework and watching TV  
Very often we go out of town on weekends  
Lots of my cousins live in Albuquerque  
In the fall we go to my aunt Delphie's house  
Sometimes we go to the mall to go shopping  
Yellow roses are my favorite flower  
But they poke me  
Bees are always on the roses so I have to stay back  
All in the end  
Going places is my favorite thing to do

### Morning in Ruidoso

Waking up on the couch  
Looking at the window at trees, fog, rain  
Smelling grandma and grandpa's coffee from the kitchen  
Going outside finding grandma and grandpa  
Sipping coffee on the patio  
Listening to the river  
Six-year-old me running around  
On the wet green grass with my dog  
Grandma calling me inside  
Eating grandma's blueberry pancakes with orange juice  
Waking up and doing it again

## Brenna

### My Rad Personality

Hey, I'm Brenna  
This is a poem about me  
I love movies in the theater or at home  
My favorite movies are adventure and music-filled  
Sometimes I like to sing  
A little song is filled with the most amazing adventure  
New times are created with awesome family trips  
New things are being said in the spring  
Every morning the sun comes to greet me  
Robin Hood is my favorite medieval character  
Beginning to drift off into a peaceful slumber

### Roswell Postcard to a Friend

I don't have a clue whether aliens are still here or not  
But I do know that Roswell is HOT in the summer and cold in the winter  
In the spring, it is wonderful, if you like wind  
I believe you might like it here in the spring  
I once saw a movie and an alien body in the alien museum  
I don't know if aliens still  
Exist but some of their heads  
Are still on the lamp posts downtown  
But, despite that, I think you should visit Roswell

Morgan S.

Hummingbirds

The cool breeze  
The warm sun  
So cold so hot  
The autumn leaves in  
My hand

I blow  
One by one they turn  
Into beautiful  
Creatures

So small so  
Delicate  
Their wings beat so fast  
Their beautiful colors  
In the orange sky

Hummingbirds are heading home.

I Apologize

I have eaten  
All the ice cream sandwiches  
That were in the freezer

Which you were probably saving  
For later

Forgive me,  
I was sick, I had a fever  
I was craving something cold  
So cold, so sweet, and so  
Chocolatey

Hear Me

Hear me  
Put me close to your ears  
I am many colors  
Like white and gray  
I am smooth

What am I?  
Well people have  
Listened to me for  
Years

Sometimes crabs  
Use me for shelter

I can be found  
At stores and beaches  
My voice sounds  
Like waves

Lucas T.

Plant Me

Put me in the ground  
Watch me sprout  
I am small, yet I harbor greatness

Humans use me thousands of years ago  
Bugs love to eat me

My size is that of a grain of sand  
I create the tree in your backyard

I can be eaten as well  
Or bought at a garden store  
I am one out of a thousand  
From a single blue flower

Sorry

I have stolen  
Your pencils  
Right off  
Your desk

And which  
You probably use  
To write  
And do homework

Forgive me  
Each stroke was so smooth  
Each eraser so pure  
Each color so bright

Lucas

My name is Lucas and my life is so cool  
I have many activities but I hate. . .  
Swimming classes!  
I'm horrible at athletics but I like to climb trees.  
Believe it or not, my grades are all . . .  
A's!  
You know what? I like to shoot guns.  
Come into my room, so we can have . . .  
A good time playing on my Xbox  
In my spare time, I watch Mary's vlogs.  
Also, I like to eat good fried . . .  
Sushi  
You know, fried rice is where it's at.  
I'm not overweight, but very, very . . .  
Skinny.  
This poem took a long time  
With all its stanzas, it's so hard to . . .  
Rhyme

Marisa V.

I Must Tell You

I must tell you  
I have your favorite pair of shoes  
You have been looking for them forever  
That day I was angry at you  
When you trashed my room  
Looking for something  
I didn't have

I put them in my room  
Then I lost them  
Forgive me  
I look for them all the time

Maybe I will buy you new ones  
With the money I stole from you  
Which you stole from me

Nail Polish

As my mom paints my nails  
As a kid and even until now  
At her work, so many colors to pick  
Yellow, purple, pink, red, blue?  
Picking out my colors  
While she is doing someone's hair  
Waiting, waiting, waiting  
Opening up the bottle of nail polish  
Such a strong smell  
Hearing her open up the new colors  
I see pretty nails

# Haiku

Written at Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge  
February 27, 2020



Blue sky ends  
At the tip of  
Each mountain

Grass, trees, and water  
All move the same  
Following the breeze  
- Yanele

The wind blow  
And I'm in the wild

Brush is blowing  
Wind howling  
But the ducks still fly  
- Luke B.

A cold winter breeze  
Big natural hill ahead  
Radio towers

Longer days  
Beautiful trail next to lake  
"area off limits"  
- Cade

Almost spring  
Hills rising in the east  
Before them, clear water  
- Jackson

Water ripples  
Mud is drying  
And the wind halts  
- Owen

A lingering cold  
My skin feels like it's in water  
I am wet, wet, wet  
- Jaime

Crystal sky  
Perfectly dormant  
Yet so alive  
- Jase

Land everywhere  
Surrounded by wildlife  
Away from the city is calm  
- Eli

New Mexico sun  
Red hills to my left  
Blue water to my right  
- Savannah

Everything very still  
Everything very calm  
No clouds in sight

I lay my arms down  
Feel the soft sand  
And pick it up, cooling my hands  
- Damaris

Frozen air  
House fly crawling on the mud  
Fresh shoe tracks deeply imprinted

Chilled breeze  
Paw prints in dry crusty dirt  
Yellow caution tape  
- Quiannalei

Spring has come  
Freshwater in slow still ripples  
Mallard ducks floating on the water

Crystal snowmelt pond  
Slow still frozen creek  
Underneath hundreds of fish swimming

Comanche Bluff is coming to life  
Striped rocks form the canyons  
Horizons of endless distance  
- Mary

New dawn  
A twisted tree  
And some silent humming

In the depths  
Of a concrete block  
A spider spins its web

Still ice exists thinly  
I skid a rock elegantly  
across it

A silky feather resting calmly  
The falcon who left it  
Soars above  
- Jonah

Longer days  
Plants piercing the air  
Water seeping into the ground

Serene mountains  
The view over the edge  
Silence through the breeze  
- Caitlyn

The wind blows  
And I'm out  
In the middle of nowhere

Season of mud  
Immersed in nature  
Realizing my blood sugar is low  
Soren

Frosty morning  
Scent of salt lingers  
A mallard yodels in the distance

About to bloom  
Green plants on the ground  
Sparrow soars through the sky  
- Caleb

Glittering water  
Sparkling serenely  
Nothing to disturb, just peace

Work of art  
Is the duck  
What beauty it displays

Cold and crisp  
Loud footsteps  
Quiet breeze  
- Marisa R.

Cold breeze  
A carp making  
Clear water murky

Warm sunlight  
Blinding me  
Without looking up

Late February  
Serene ducks sit on the water  
Wish I could stay  
- Cleofas

A soft breeze  
Makes the dry  
Earth shudder  
- Kaden

First blooms have not begun  
But the beauty never ceases  
With the world i have become one

The cool spring breeze  
Moves past my skin  
Still water for miles

I take note of the empty sky  
Where are you clouds?  
Hiding”  
- Macy

White feather and snowy down  
Caught by a creosote bush  
Shiver in the sharp breeze

Frosted glass  
Edges of the shallow marsh  
Ice in the morning sun  
- Leslie Lawner

Cold stream  
Clear river  
Neon green algae at my feet  
- Austin

Clear skies  
Peaceful redheads  
On moving water  
- Eliana

Kids try to find their friends  
Birds flying by  
Just watch  
- Samantha

Field of grasses  
Dotted with broken trees  
On a sea of yellow grain

Red-colored grasses  
In the near distance  
Wonder what they're called

Warm morning  
An egret floats in the water  
Looks kind of like a boat

Dead grass  
On a salty shore  
Makes a nice place to sit  
- Mason D.

Crisp air  
Schooling fish  
Tangled reeds

Birds migrating  
Ducks afloat  
Wind pushing the water  
- Mason H.

Crystal blue sky  
Lingering cool  
A great spot for some poetry

Beyond the marshland  
Flowers and little berries  
Under the shade of my footsteps

By the silent lake  
We walk, birds fly overhead  
Quietly, we watch

A fat cactus  
Shiny needles  
Penetrating the stillness  
- Nathan

Late February  
The water calm  
Crane flying overhead  
- Carper

Still water  
The cusp of spring  
I stand waiting

Fresh spring grass  
Small killdeer weave past  
Carried by the breeze

Glass bottles  
Washed onto shore  
Home of abandoned insects  
- -Morgan L.

Early spring grass  
Tall as man  
Getting its green back

Thin layer of winter ice  
When it melts  
All life will change

Early spring mud  
The gray raccoons  
Have left their mark

Late winter tree  
Will never see life again  
Poisoned by the salty water  
- Noah

Still looking at the water  
And the gate  
As the cold goes away  
- Isaac

Spring morning  
Eating snacks  
Writing calming poems

Spring mountains  
Carry roads to inspiration

Waters dancing with the air  
Carry spring insects

Morning  
Yellow bus full  
Of teenage 4 year olds  
- Gabriella M.

Winter  
Wind whirling in my ear  
Silent grass in the water

Longer days  
Hidden bugs in the shadows  
Cars shining in the sun  
- Serena

Season of mud  
The toads hibernate in it  
Fish still active  
- Marco

A cool wind  
A clear sky  
Fish in glistening water

Late winter  
Frozen water  
Air bubbles  
- Aidan

Mud on the trail  
Snakes hiding in  
Dry grass  
- Jesus

In the cold  
Walking on the trail  
Kicking rocks with my feet

Lingering cold  
The mountains stay still  
On the other side, a city working

In the cold  
Kids talking  
But over their voice, quiet  
- Savino

Little movements  
Quiet and near  
Spring is finally here  
- Alex

Icy stream  
Single bug  
Hopping across the water

Found tracks in mud  
Looks like baby hands  
Probably raccoons

Found a den  
Where the tracks  
Ended  
- Avery W.