

POETRY & PROSE

Long and Lost by Morgan Dean	2
Life Emerges by Morgan Dean	2
Blossom by Morgan Dean	2
Sips of Heaven by Devin Brown	4
Shining Star by Kerry Almeida	7
Forever Gone, But Never Forgotten	
by Brianna Blair	10-11
Go Outdoors by Noah Caler	13
A New Year by Renee Eisenberg	15
Unforgettable Memories; Unforgettable	
People by Cheyenne Graham	16
Deep Inside the Heart by Taylor Bizzarri	18
They Tell You by Briana Angeles	18
Butterflies by Brenna Sheaffer	18

The Yesterme by Harrison Jones	20
Watching from Some Heights	
by Harrison Jones	21
Picked Apart Stories by Harrison Jones	21
Survivor by Chantel Bankert	23
Guard Against the Storm	
by Toby Talamantes	23
When It Hit Me by Sam Gilbert	25
The Man by Amalea Williams	26
One Place by Dylan Krieger	27
H2O by Tavin Zinn	27
The Figure by Meredith Heagerty	28

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Production: Visual Impact Group

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ARTWORK

April Burgess 3 Alex Rapp 3 Hana Light 3 Autumn Brendle 3 Self Portraits: 4 Devin Brown 4 Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 4 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 4 Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9 Autumn Brendle "Grapes" 9
Hana Light 3 Autumn Brendle 3 Self Portraits: 4 Devin Brown 4 Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Autumn Brendle 3 Self Portraits: 4 Devin Brown 4 Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 4 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 4 Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Self Portraits: Devin Brown 4 Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Devin Brown 4 Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Jacob Lorenzo 5 Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Nathan Caler 5 Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 4 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 4 Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Deric Hess 5 Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 8 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 9
Autumn Brendle 5 Charcoals: 6 Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 8 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 9
Charcoals: Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Kerry Almeida 6 Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 8 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 8 Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Rob Korman "Lay Day" 6 Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 8 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 9
Rob Korman "Salt and Pepper" 7 Rob Korman 7 Cut papers: 8 Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: 8 Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Rob Korman7Cut papers:Hana Light8Brooklyn Linebaugh8Ashlee Caler8Charcoal Still Life:Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze"9
Cut papers: Hana Light
Hana Light 8 Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Brooklyn Linebaugh 8 Ashlee Caler 8 Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze" 9
Ashlee Caler
Charcoal Still Life: Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze"
Hannah Markle "Kitchen Daze"9
Denisha Oliveras "Ice Cream Scoop"9
Selected Works from the Portfolio of
Prianna Plair
"Rocky Shore"
Mandala
Mandala 11
"When Music is Silent"11
Portraits:
Neelum by Kerry Almeida12
Helen Rosenbrien12
Madison Reck12
"Meliquides" by Karen Garcia 12
Rylee Smith
"Dave" by Emily Albright 13
Selected Works from the Portfolio by Renee
Eisenberg:
Self-Portrait-Charcoal-"Me"14
Grisaille Painting-"Mom"
Watercolor- "Meredith"
Charcoal- "Jewelry Box"
Oil Pastel- "Yellow Sea"
Charcoal-"Story Behind the Wrinkles"

Selected Works from the Portfolio of Jennie	
Self Portrait-"Fear"	
Painting-"Tribal"	
Photograph	
Collage-"Hate"	
PhotographYupo Painting-"Circles"	
	17
Collages:	10
Brianna Angeles	
Shelby Gulden	
Jack Spielman	19
Selected Works from the Portfolio of	
Harrison Jones:	20
"Setting Sun"	20
"Inquiring Eyes" "Facing Decades"	
"Reflections"	
"Regel in the Reeds"	21
"Alert Behind Solitary Blades"	
Artwork of <i>Lindsey King</i> :	
Charcoal-Self-Portrait	22
Pastel-"Old Man"	
Artwork of Sam Gilbert :	
"Not Good Enough"	24
"Not Talented Enough"	
"Not Pretty Enough"	
"Not Smart Enough"	24
"Not Athletic Enough"	
Reduction Prints:	
Jacob Rhodes	26
Emma DePalmer	
Abigail Rowe	27
Nicolas Seymour	27
Sara Durika	
Avery Martz	27
Artwork by Meredith Heagerty :	
"Sugar Skull"	
"Taurus"	
"Aries"	
"Splatter Hair"	28
Amish Quilt Patch by all students of Hanover	
School	29
Recycled Art "Slide Into the Light" by Maddi	e Reck,
Rylee Smith, Brianna Martin, Jade McClan	e,
Olivia Lawrence"	29

Harrison Jones - Front, Back, and Inside Cover

Morgan Dean

Long and Lost

The light shone bright like stars in outer space The beams that flowed from faces to the moon My heart beats quickly as the words are strewn A fake smile stretches across my face My eyes well up with tears that softly race Without you here my heart grows too immune Our separation never will attune Our love, so strong, can never be replaced But as I see the happiness in you My sadness buried deep beneath the love Our relationship will stay strong all through Our family will stay tight all above So, with sorrow, I now do bid adieu But not for long, migrating like a dove.

Life Emerges inspired by William Carlos Williams' "Spring and All"

Rattling from the strong, rooted tree the frigid wind whips her rocking, blustering, struggling survival is skeptical

The cool sun reflects a blinding light shines, dividing the sky in two

Days are minutes shuffling by she grows impatient the grass is vivid, the leaves fresh it is her time

a crack snaps through the dry fabric fracturing her capsule in half

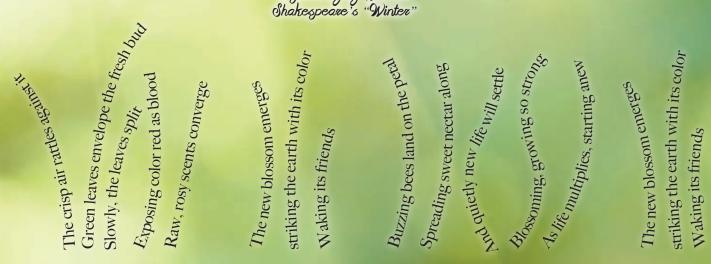
Limp and lifeless, her body flutters to the ground, warm and unfamiliar light brightens and humid air lingers she lays in the center of the new world

Her feet kiss the dirt ground Stumbling to gain her balance

She straightens her crystal wings demanding attention

Without thought she lifted in the airfloating on the hot wind filled with new life the world awakens







APRIL BURGESS / Pastel



ALEX RAPP / Pastel



HANA LIGHT / Pastel



AUTUMN BRENDLE / Pastel



rowing up, my mother would have at least one cup of steaming hot coffee each morning. I recall waking up at the beginning of each day and smelling it as I, half asleep, stumbled down the steps to take a shower before school. There were times when I, reaching the bottom of the stairs and rubbing my eyes awake, glanced around the corner to catch a glimpse of my mom, both hands hugging her mug, taking sips of her escape. She always got comfortable at the same spot on the couch with our three schnauzers tightly curled up against her. With the lack of noise and company, I imagine my mom had a million thoughts going through her head those mornings. However, I know she was in heaven during those moments because of the way she drank from her mug, eyes closed, smile on her face, and an increasingly warm heart.

As a child, I despised coffee. Nonetheless, I tried my mother's coffee on occasion to see if I liked it, but it always seemed like a bitter stream of mud sloshing down my throat. I don't think any child enjoys coffee very much and if they do they're probably lying in order to feel

older. Maybe children tend not to drink coffee simply because they don't need it, maybe they are so innocent, content, and full of energy that they haven't had to force themselves to drown in coffee just to stay awake.

By the time I grew into a teenager, I started to drink coffee every now and then, eventually falling in love with the drink so much to take it any way I could get it: black, full of cream, hot, cold, whatever. But the question still stands. Did I truly like coffee or did I adjust to the taste because I needed more energy to survive my youth? Or, perhaps this question has no significance at all. Maybe the only true reason I started drinking coffee had been to be more like my mother. After all, sitting down to drink coffee with her never failed in leading to interesting conversation and quality time spent together.

During one of our conversations over coffee, I learned that my parents decided to keep my mom at home full time instead of working when my brothers and I came into the world to assure that we would be properly raised. Incredibly, she gave up her dreams to stay home with us all those years. Always fascinated with

the medical field, she wanted to be a surgeon or at least work with a surgeon. Although the decision had been made long ago, my mother, consistently knowing what is wrong when I'm sick or hurt, would have made an excellent worker in the medical field.

Now, every time I sit down to enjoy a cup of coffee, I think about my mother and all she has sacrificed for me. Even when she's gone, I know I'll be able to drink some coffee and it will remind me of who she raised me to be. I know that everything she has done for me can be remembered and cherished as long as I have coffee to drink. To add to this, I think it's possible that my learning to enjoy coffee is symbolic of growing up and maturing. I used to think coffee tasted like mud and, in the same way, my life, at that time, had an impact on the world as much a puddle of mud would. Now, I'm older and, because of listening to my mom's teachings, I have contributed more to the world as my love for coffee has increased; however, I am not half of the caring, nurturing person my mother is.

Perhaps I need more coffee...









Far away, yet you still touch me

ROBERT KORMAN Salt & Pepper / Charcoal

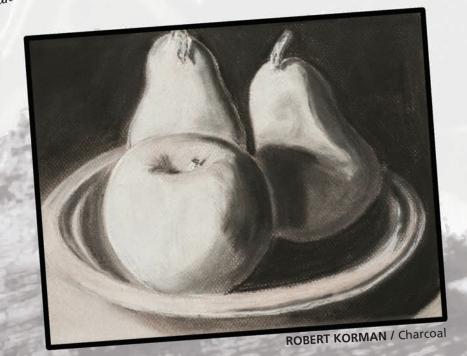
As dusk seeks the horizon

And as the heart of the cosmos visits a foreign land

BY KERRY ALMEIDA

Stationed in your blue canvas

You shine through Capturing me with your beautiful radiance.





The Arrival

by Ashlee Caler Based off "Words" by Sylvia Plath

Dark and eerie the days come,

death following in the hours past.

Blisters and boils.

Bleeding and pussing,

It is here.

Barricades are formed,

doors are locked,

children hiding in the shadows.

The night has come

for death to reach its peak,

innocent blood will be shed.

Bodies are stacked

draped over others in holes

No one is safe,

no one can hide,





One Less Life

by Ashlee Caler

Shadows play on the horizon I gather my books and go on The streets empty of life I'm invincible.

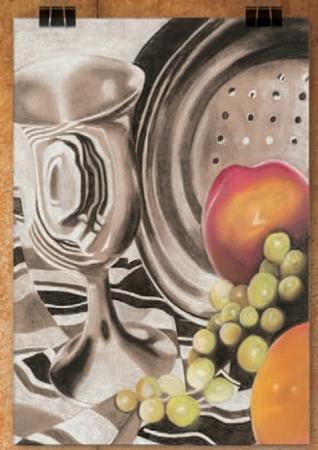
An independent soul A quiet life of loneliness An emptiness grows deeper in my Broken, beaten.

the smell of rotten flesh hits the air I hold my silence like a gun Each word catching in my throat The scene of my death forever repeating Silence reigns.

For the bubonic plague has arrived. The beauty of the world gone The last breath long gone from my chest Forever betrayed and left alone in my mind Gone.



HANNAH MARKLE / Kitchen Daze / Charcoal



AUTUMN BRENDLE / Grapes / Charcoal



DENISHA OLIVERAS / Ice Cream Scoop / Charcoal

PORTFOLIO O





Mandala



by Brianna Blair

t opened my eyes. The sky, dark and eerie, combined with silence produced an ominous feeling. I had woken from my sleep, my three year-old bladder about to overflow. Emerging from my bedroom that I shared with my sister, an awful scene unfolded in front of me. On the other side of a the hallway a group of people clustered together. Recognizing two of the individuals as my father and grandfather, the other two gentlemen, dressed in funny uniforms,



Rocky Shore / Pastel

had red bags by their sides. In the middle of all of these familiar and unfamiliar people, a bed, a different bed, a bed with wheels, stood. On the strange bed, my mommom laid. Her face ashen and her body unmoving, I had never seen her so still. My legs, short and stubby, broke into a run, but before I could reach her, my father intercepted, grabbing me, holding me close. Looking at his face, tears streamed down his cheeks.



Mandala

back to my room, urging me to go back to bed. At that moment I remembered why I had gotten up in the first place. Squirming and kicking, my legs swung until my dad released me on the floor. Once I was finally free, I quickly went potty and when I came back out my mommom had vanished. Worry twisted my stomach in knots as I went to go search for Mommom. Silently creeping downstairs, I witnessed my Poppop and Daddy together on the couch, shoulders hunched, tears dropping.



When Music is Silent / Charcoal

Before they saw me, I went back upstairs and climbed into the once comforting bed, the bed that now felt too large and uninviting. The next morning I found out what happened to my mommom; she went to sleep forever. She would never hold me close again. Everyone sobbed and my mind, innocent and unknowing, could not function. I only knew that Mommom would never wake up again.



HELEN ROSEBRIEN / Self-Portrait / Tempera

KERRY ALMEIDA / Neelum / Mixed Media

colorful seasons

by Neelum Amjad

the wind blows, the trees sway leaves come sailing down

night gets longer day by day autumn is **OrOWN**

golden and gray

red and green





NOAH HARING

80 outdoors

all in this haven is native,

except the mark of a show,

and the tools he equips.

all can live in Peace,

and all reliant on one another,

except for the savage acts of survival,

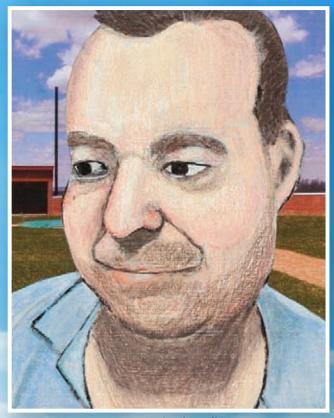
but those we can grant

the surroundings may be cruel

but the feeling of joy overwhelms.



RYLEE SMITH / Self-Portrait / Tempera



EMILY ALBRIGHT / Dave / Mixed Media



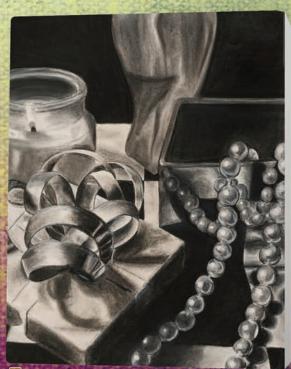
Me / Charcoal

PORTFOLIO OF RENEE EISENBERG



Meredith / Watercolor





Jewelry Box / Charcoal

NEW YEAR

A Sonnet by Renee Eisenberg



Yellow Sea / Oil Pastel

The leaves are

The colors golden red where lawns they spread.

The colors golden red where lawns they spread.

With swiftness DANCE along the barren breeze,

And comes the winter bringing BUOYANT DEAD.

The squirrels bury acorns frantically,
To hide from cold that soon CONSUMES the land.
Where once they lie and used to roam freely,
Now CAST A SHADOW where it will expand.

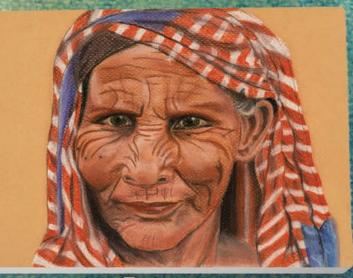
The lights within ILLUMINATE the night,
With smoke that streams from chimneys far and near.
The world is filled around with FLUFFY WHITE,
Which signals tidings guiding a new year.

Around the corner SPRING brings buds in bloom, from clutches of a tomb.

The earth ESCAPES



Lindsay / Acrylic Painting



Story Behind the Wrinkles / Charcoal

Thaling, I felt the muggy, summer air form into clouds and make their way into my lungs. Some of the clouds evaporated and splashed my face as if trying to send me a wake-up call. To my right, infinite evergreen blankets roar down hills, and lay motionless behind the barren

Unforgettable Memories crescent of road. To my left, a magnificent being sits patiently, hands draped

over the steering wheel, gazing out into the vast distance before us...my mother. Her red-velvety hair folds down into a perfect edge, pastel skin sheens beneath the sun's glossy rays, prussian blue eyes hidden behind a shield of sunglasses. We have U2 forcefully drifting out of the car windows, splitting into our ears in unmeasurable amounts of pleasure. Fizzling, our fountain drinks sit entrapped in the cup holders, dripping past Rutter's acclaimed label. With no set destination, no bother in sight, no one except my dear friend leading the way to destiny, nothing between us and bliss except old-crusty backroads.

Glimpsing, my mother swiveled her head between me and the road, gazing at our features, smiling and chuckling all at the same time. My peripheral vision catches her in the act, which

causes my head to snap towards her direction, "What?" I asked anxiously

She smiled gently, "Hah, nothing really, just looking at my beautiful little girl, and thinking about how much I love her."

My facial expression tried to convey her statement as being "sappy" or "lame". I couldn't let my mother know that I had a soft spot, because what ten-year-old has one anyway? However, even though my aura of mellowness stayed strong like an ox, a smile couldn't help but seep through my lips. Blushing, I turn towards her, trying not make eye-contact, hesitating between thoughts, words, and feelings, I finally just said "You know what, mom? I really love you too."

A warm sensation flooded my body, feeling as if my heart sat cradled in safe arms. I didn't want to speak, didn't want to think, didn't want to feel anything except love; I didn't want to toy with the moment, just wanted to let it happen.

My mother is my confidant, my teacher, my human tissue when I need to shed a few tears, and we drove on.

Now, this moment is just an unforgettable time capsule, faintly projected in the corners of my junk-box of a brain. Her softmelodic voice slowly swifts in my eardrums, her honeved aroma still tingles beneath my nose ring, her characteristics trace my DNA everyso-often. My mother's presence is still greatly yearned for in my life, but I can't close my eyes to reminiscence forever; I have to keep them open to actuality.

Fear / Charcoal













Tribal / Acrylic Painting



Circles / Watercolor on Yupo



deep inside the



what is the power in a thing that holds your heart? a thing that does not hold you, cannot hold you, for it is just out of reach. how can a love be \$0 strong for a thing that cannot see you?

for it has not touched your hand.

why is reason so lost on a thing that should not captivate you? a thing that is always in a light that is not quite bright enough. and yet it does not need to hold you,

it does not need to See you,

and it does not need the bright lights. for you to fall deeper and deeper

until you have fallen so far,

that you cannot pull yourself back up again.



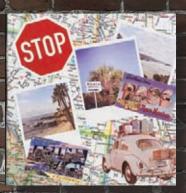


BRIANNA ANGELES / Collage



they tell you to NIOE the true feelings they tell you that it's just a phase that will eventually go away but most don't realize the Pain that has no healings shame and hiding will not make the pain any easier to convey you are not the illness that you deal with

its hard for everyone to see you go by faking smiles just so you aren't judged you go by being who everyone thinks you should be but you really just go by feeling misplaced and misjudged you are not your illness







SHELBY GULDEN / Collage

butterflies

inspired by words by sylvia

making your stomach queese toppling up and down up and down like a see saw in your intestine take a deep breath
to surface the bright being to soon plunge into the deep

the wings still fluttering keeping the excitement

and nerve



creeping in your stomach

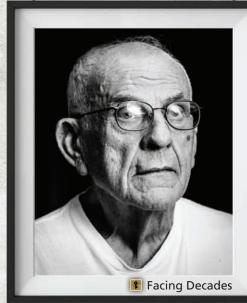




JACK SPIELMAN / Collage

PHOTOGRAPHY AND WRITINGS BY









The Yesterme

Inspired by Lewis Carroll "The Jabberwocky"

Feathering through the fickle fall flutterfrees
The sun glows gallantly and glistfulfree
Out comes the leafs of light levanies
Singing their song of mysteries
Yeltering yestfully the yelping yesterme sat

on its perch
What's a yesterme to do with something to search?

So the yestermes searched through the flutterfrees that were left to be yelperbees and flutterfrees followed under those yertermes, free

Soaring, in all it glory, the yesterme, began to sing What do you sing for? Is it for the litterbling?

They decorate their homes, their abodes, with their litterblings

Found under the sudden ring Of land so distant and big





Picked Apart Stories Inspired by "Words" by Sylvia Plath

Inspired by "Words" by Sylvia Plath

Memories cascade through pinhole lenses

Picking the picked apart perspectives

Choosing what

To see in an old light

a new light

Piously prying upon the thoughts that we once despised

The thoughts that we once depended on

Written by our own selves

Placed upon a shelf and crowned our own kind

Worship to the gods of yesteryear

The truth fades and their crown remains

Watching from some heights

Watching from some heights

He sees the water ripple;

Looking for dinner's great delight

Watchful, cautious, but mutually unaware

That I was so near.

Turning left I saw,

His great blue plumage;

Wild and fanciful in the surprise

Moving hardly, he slowed,

Curious of what I'd do.

King of his lake, he thought,
There could be no threat to compare;
But there I am, this strange beast.
His wings unfold, but flight he does not take,
Folding back into his sides,
Beginning again in his hunt,

He searches for toads, fish, dragonflies.

Anything would do,

For his stomach's great roar;

Wading in his long stilts

Moving the water, he searched.

This great patron of nature Did not see me as his threat For him, the king of the lake, Could be challenged by none.

Was it gold or just fool's gold

the question remains unasked and unanswered

afraid of knowing and unknowing

but in the end

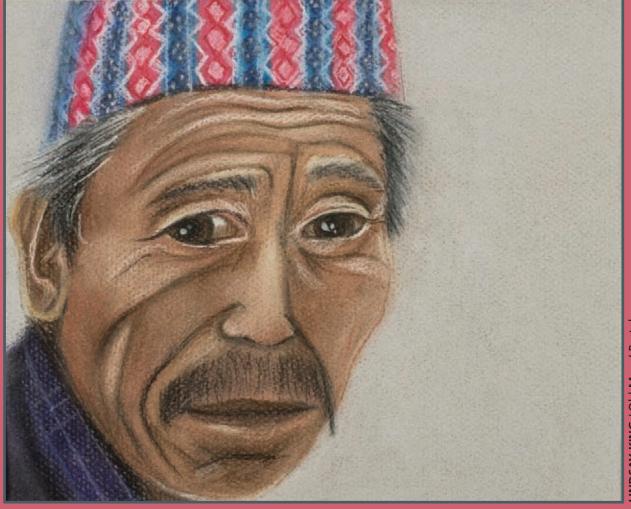
it's dust all the same

in the memories built in the blocks of

picked apart stories



LINDSAY KING / Self Portrait / Charcoal



Survivor

by: Chantel Bankert

(In honor of my mom who had breast cancer and beat it)

When we found out We were all shocked To hear the words

"I have Cancer."

These words made us shut down and cry. You felt like giving up But you didn't.

You fought.

Chemo caused Sickness, nausea and tiredness.

Yet, you pushed through, finished Chemo.

But the fight wasn't over. Radiation followed, making you tired.

You may have felt alone But you weren't. You had all of us-Your kids, family, and friends.

We all helped out
Doing the household chores,
Painting your toenails,
And cooking dinner.

Now that radiation is almost over You may feel relieved, But the healing process takes time.

We will stand beside you. You are strong and a fighter You are a survivor.

We love you, Mom.

As the wind Against by Toby Talamantes

blows, the sky

the storm
growls and cries
in cold hatred.
The clouds gather,
and fear beckons.
you cower and hide,
from the thunder
unabated.

brella
guards
y O U
from the
rain, my voice
calls out, against
lighting so jaded.
And my body protects you
from the pain, and my
love shields you from the
storm yet sated.

An

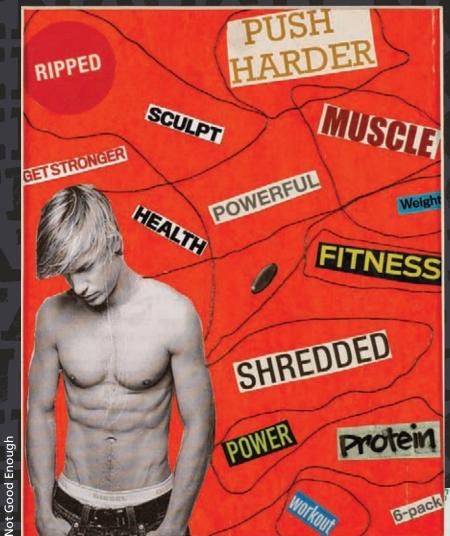
guard you with

my heart so fragile,

be calm in this and sure of me.
All I ask from you is love that is tactile. for I am here for you

eternally.

and Grace we will be with sweet serenity



ART WORK AND WRITINGS BY

SAM

GILBERT





WHEN IT HIT ME

Gradually, the sunlight shone through my window, and my tired eyes slowly opened. Facing another day of kindergarten always excited me, my young brain craved new knowledge, and my inner woman adored the idea of independence. My brush flowed through my long, blonde hair and I put on my favorite Pooh Bear dress, purple with all of the characters pictured on the skirt. I happily skipped to my grandma's old, beat up station wagon in front of my house. Smiling, my mind wandered what might occur that day; coloring, playing games, making new friends, and much much more.

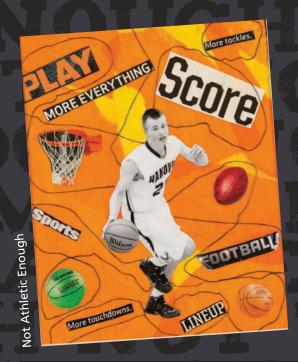
Upon reaching the sidewalk, I turned and witnessed a blur coming my way. Trying to clarify the blur, uncertainty and fear took over my mind.

Moving closer, the blur turned out to be a man wearing all blue, charging on a silver bike with tall wheels. I turned my body and faced him. He reached me, slamming into my rib cage, and my thin, delicate body smacked onto the ground, taking my breath away. Within seconds, my body, bleeding excessively from my arms and legs, and my Pooh Bear dress smashed into the sidewalk. Trying to regain consciousness and scanning my surroundings, I saw a blurred image of a teenage boy riding his bike and quickly turning the corner on my street, probably in an effort to relieve himself from my grandma, running and screaming, and her wrath. Breath gasping, heart pounding, world spinning, I barely could decipher my grandma aggressively sprinting towards the man down the street. The man rode swiftly and my grandma's body, diminutive and frail, stood no match for the young, fit man and his sports bike.

My grandma returned to me, cussing and panting, and decided she should take me to the hospital. Hands shaking, thoughts blurred, my words wouldn't come out. I'd never gone to the hospital, and had absolutely no desire to go. As we drove, my skewed mind attempted to make sense of all that had happened in the last twenty minutes, but could only remember bits and pieces. Upon arrival at the hospital, my grandma explained to the nurse what happened to me. The nurse looked at me, her eyes, concerned and blue, and escorted me back to her office. The nurse checked my vitals. Everything seemed to be normal, but the shooting pain in my wrist and my pounding headache made it impossible for me to comprehend the nurse. She took notice of my deep pain and sent me to the emergency room.

In the emergency room the doctor, Dr. Smith, laid me on a bed made with all white sheets and a small, course blanket. He examined me and immediately noticed my wrist, bruised, swollen, and crooked, and ordered an Xray. Blood oozing from my head, he also informed me that an MRI would be ordered to be done immediately. Dr. Smith walked me to the MRI room. The dim lighting and the massive, dark MRI machine, a neverending tunnel, almost led me to burst into tears. Dr. Smith informed me of exactly what would happen. With the massive helmet secured to my head, the doctor placed me in the MRI machine for about 30 minutes. As if this all wasn't terrifying enough, my grandma and Dr. Smith had to leave the room. Sweating, despite the cold temperature in the room, and drowning in terrifying thoughts, I wondered: What if I got stuck in the machine? What if the door locked and I got trapped? Could there be something on the other side of the tunnel? What if it was aliens? What if I suffocated in the tunnel?

As it turns out, I survived the accident and even the MRI. Injuries, X rays, doctors appointments, and many MRI nightmares, although just a small part of the recovery process, I did just fine. I certainly did not expect enduring a day in the emergency room rather than a joyful day at kindergarten. Looking back on the event, I haven't seen the man riding the bike since the day of the accident. Although mortified by the accident at the time, I realize now how much my grandma loves about me and how fortunate I am to be taken care of so well, during both the good times and the difficult ones. Even though I almost always insist on doing things independently, I know that it's okay to need help sometimes.



THE MAN by Amalea Williams

On April 15, 2000, my mother, three months pregnant, my father, and I visited my paternal grandfather, Baba, at his home in a gated community located in Paradise Valley, about five miles out of Phoenix, Arizona. We called to inform him that we had left our home to see him, but to our surprise he did not answer his phone; however, we assumed that he sat outside in his backyard enjoying the beautiful Arizona spring day. As we approached the entry gates the security guard on duty said that he had not seen him yet that day, which happened to be normal seeing it turned out to only be about 11 o'clock in the morning. Grasping the Peanuts themed coloring pages that I had carefully doodled on that morning, we drove into his driveway. Upon arrival at his home my mother and father saw a single piece of white copy paper with, to my three year old mind, hastily drawn scribbles. My parents hurriedly read the scribbles

while running in through the unlocked front door to the dining room table where another piece of paper with more gracefully drawn scribbles awaited their eyes. My mother, shocked and stunned, cried while my father slowly turned to walk towards Baba's bedroom, note barely held in his shocked, paralyzed hands. Opening the door I saw my grandfather, sleeping peacefully, on his twin bed with a gun delicately placed near his head. Immediately my mother rushed me to the neighbor's house with a box of everlasting gobstoppers and three of my favorite Disney movies. Meanwhile my father called all of his five siblings and emergency services.

services. I stayed at the neighbor's house until my mother, so soft and fragile, came to bring me back to Baba's house. To me the somber scene seemed almost calm, as I sat watching my father and a paramedic carry my limp, bloodstained grandfather out on a stretcher. My mother, still hysterical, sat on the floor in front of me unable to watch. I still had some gobstoppers left so I decided to offer

her some hoping that it could calm her down; she took two and slowly put each of them into her mouth. Just then my father walked back in and my mom stood up to console him in a long embrace. As he came to sit next to me he hugged and kissed me. I had not yet realized that his father, the man Tim Williams had been to me, is gone from the physical world forever. My mother stayed in the middle of the room, still dealing with the overwhelming shock.

As the day went on people came and went from the home, yet when a young man, that I had only seen in pictures, who looked very much like my grandfather, walked into the front door of the home no one noticed him; I seemed to be the only person who could see him. He slowly moved to me and knelt down, with a familiar smile he looked me right in the eyes and said, "Amalea, before you'd been born I happened to be in a lot of pain, the type of pain that I thought I could never get away from. The day that you entered the world I went to the hospital to see this beautiful baby girl that my youngest son had brought into this world. I had been very hesitant to hold you because both my physical and emotional pain had become too much, but your father insisted. I finally gave

in and the moment you hit my arms all my despair and agony vanished. I held you for what seemed like hours, the only thing on my mind, you. But sadly over the past three years my mind became cloudier and cloudier and my body ached more and more each day. Up to this point the pain had been tolerable because I knew once a week a beautiful blonde haired, blue eyed girl would run through that door and the first thing she would do is rush around the house looking for me."

The young man, dressed in a button up shirt and khaki pants, then came closer to me, lifted his hands, soft and gentle, pointed to my heart and said, "I will always be right here, and if you ever feel down or you need someone to talk to I will be with you forever." As he stood up he kissed my forehead and walked over to my mother, gently put his hand on her ever expanding stomach, leaned down and kissed the bulge that would soon be my sister. He then straightened up and slowly started to disappear into a globe of light. The orb that had once been this strange man split into two, one going right into my heart and the other disappearing into my mother's abdomen. Right then my mother twitched; the baby kicked for the first time.

Emma DePalmer / Reduction









There is always one place I like to be The basketball court where I'm at peace No matter how you play, the win starts with "D" Pick your pocket, call me a thief Or battle on the boards for the ball Take the ball down to the other end of the court Use a big man for a screen like a brick wall Take the shot or pass, just don't leave it short Hit the shot and hear the crowd roar Nowhere else I would like to be than on that floor For every time I play, I am grateful for that day



by Tavin Zinn

vast around the globe insubstantial in its amount formless, shapeless, clear

put into a glass it will then become the glass translucent, pellucid

murky in the deep yet purified through rainfall it's known as water

raspy breath raspy breath face as its narley face as it a cold sweat, in a cold sweat, shuffling toward shuffling toward shuffling toward my bed.

Sugar Skull / Mixed Media Collage





Taurus / Mixed Media Collage

ARTWORK AND WRITING BY VIER EDITING FIRE ACCEPTANCE FIRE

to come

