

GROWING BETWEEN THE CRACKS



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www.qwf.org/programs/wic

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*RX



Jennifer

I'm exhausted of the deadlines that kept me isolated from happiness and relief. The pressure from work and exams has left me fatigued and stolen my youth like a thief.

As a young kid I was able to walk outside in the sunshine with my mom and brother by my side. Things have changed since then. Instead of me being able to feel happiness I have to fight to keep other people from seeing my weakness. I was five when I got put in my first group home. There were these monsters who took me away from my mom, saying that it was not my fault it's just that I wouldn't be able to survive if I continued living with my mom. Deep down I knew they were wrong because the only abuse and cruelty I felt in my life so far was when they took me away from my mom. I was so young then I did not think that I had the freedom to speak out and tell everybody the pain that I was feeling deep down. I was afraid to tell them that having your family with you growing up is the most important thing in a child's life. Nobody understands the struggle of people asking you where your home is, and not having an answer for them because you have moved homes so many times. My future is a secret but I know I'll succeed. At this moment it's all a dream but I know I'll have the warmth of my friends and family because only they have really been there for me. In my mind they are my guardian angels. So don't say I hate my parents because maybe your best friend doesn't have any parents, but you probably don't know because when I was growing up people like me got bullied and teased just because they don't have a family. Don't feel bad for me because this is what had made me, me.

A.J.

Andrew

Speak out and use your freedom and just shine.

You're in control of your future dreams no matter

The pain, no matter the joy.

Angel is on your side to help you survive.

Revenge is weakness down the road without happiness.

Or forgiveness.

Money: Pcq sa m'apporte de la joie

Love: I love my family

Loyalty: Cuz it brings me royalty

Saint Vincent: Vincy

Happiness: Cuz I am mostly a happy guy

Family: I love my family

Rich: Cuz imam be rich

Danger: Cuz life is dangerous

Mommy: Cuz she loves me

Daddy: He is my creator

War, war, war
We don't want anymore
Don't push the button
Or the missiles are a comin'
We don't want any more bloodshed; we don't want any gore.

A.J.

Escape from life gives you pain. Fight for your life, laugh in the future, scars tell the story of your life. Abuse is cruelty, family means forgiveness, dreams are confusing, angels fight. You need to have strength to fight.

Stavros

My money is fly
My kick game is to fly
My mom is too fly
My mom is best in the world
My gal is the best woman
My life is not what you think
Je crois en Justice
PCQ il y a toujours un maniere d'avoir ce que on vx.
PCQ j'aimerais procurer pour ma famille.
J'amerai changer mon passer.
Pcq j'ai fait BCP de mauvaises choses dans ma vie.

Andrew

Unique

I just love doing things differently,

Being different in general

I love drawing attention of being different because in my head, they wouldn't even make different look good.

I love the flashing lights and whispering from being different.

I am **DIFFERENT**.

Jennifer

Survive the cruelty of love,

Broken home doesn't have to mean broken soul

Scars hide the secret of our past

Change the story, control the future.

Kimanni

Things That Bring Me Joy

Food

Family (mom)

Jamaica

Black people doing good

Being outdoors

When I do well and succeed

Medicine and science

Friendship

I wish my Dad would come get me

So I don't have to do this activity

Where is he, come get me

I need to be saved

Kimanni

I AM

I am a gentleman

I wonder why people see it

I hear mad stuff

I see mad stuff

I want justice

Stavros

I Believe

I believe in loyalty

Because there's dissent in the world and I wish for loyalty

Because people today aren't loyal.

I want to change society's set of loyalty, because people aren't loyal.

Revenge is strength, bullying is cruelty, family is love, without pain no survival in life, struggle for the rest of your life and scars mean experience.

Family is more loyal than anyone

Greeks are the best people on earth and the universe, because they have very rich history

Greece is a free country

Greek foods: gyro, spanakopita, tiropita, Greek salad

Kimanni is my idol and keeps my self-esteem high

Jennifer is caring and keeps self-esteem high

Eva is a Greek woman, strong and smart

Cheryl makes good food which I enjoy

Food keeps me alive

Friendship is loyalty

Stavros

Ode to a Mosquito

They call me the blood bandit on the block with my glock. Keep your eye on the clock. I 'm coming for your block to put you in a box under the rocks. I 'm going to bang you out, put you in a blackout. I'll put you out with my barrel as quick as my sparrow. I'll blast you with the green beam, I'm the spark as cold as the dark. I 'm like batman, you're like joker. I'm the bomber, you're the loafer. I'm the banger, you're the clover. I'm the hustler, you're the stoner.

Stavros

Words

Escape weakness for success and freedom.

Speak out about broken scars, survive breakdowns.

Angel of sweetness but numb revenge.

Change the story, control the shine.

Home is only with family, which brings love and happiness.

Have beauty, but left with emptiness

Confused secrets, cold stories, but will always end with the sunshine of life.

Fight for your future.

Focus upon yourself.

If you don't start now, when will you?

Focus upon yourself.

Don't ever give up on yourself.

Keep trying and keep hustling.

Jennifer

Dear Past **AJ**,

Sleep more!!!!

In the future you got tired of the bullshit being thrown your way!

Jessica

I may not be perfect, but I can sing pretty well.

I always wish for a miracle in my life.

I do my best to understand math class

I can create problems

I want people to feel happy and joyful around me

I hold on to some things forever, like my foster mom

I have unusual ideas, like to visit sick kids in the hospital

If I were an animal, I'd be a dog because they are my favourite

I have a secret talent- I can dance, if I try

I am Jessica

I believe in God

Because I was brought up like that

And, I wish for a miracle

Because life is hard right now

I want to change the churches, because they don't accept all religions

- Jessica

I am a tire

I wonder when I'm going to get new, shiny rims.

I hear the floor talking shit, because

I'm rolling on them.

I see everything I travel to.

I want to race the other tires because I like to compete

I am a tire

I pretend I'm not always on the floor.

I feel like the roads are bumpy sometimes

I worry when it's raining so I don't slip

I cry when I step/roll over a nail

I am a tire

I understand that there's traffic sometimes

I say I'm strong because I'm protective

I dream that I don't go through mud

I try not to catch on fire

I am a tire

- ***Jennifer***

All hope is lost. I was wrong about love. Love had left me scars on my broken heart. I wonder if there is a way to escape this dark storm which is my life. I live a cold, meaningless life with a dream to be successful, and strong; to change my future for the love of my family. After the change, we will be a storm of laughter and sweetness, and this is happiness.

- ***Jonathan***

*People are special to me
My mom is the best
Jonathan is my best friend
Mika is my man
My best friends are my whole world
Respect your special friends and family
Life can have happiness, weakness, joy and pain
My home is where my heart will forever be
Speak out against a bully
My family is full of love
My friend Angel is a beauty*

Jessica

*Nintendo is amazing
Super Smash Bros rocks it
81 to now
From day one I've been gaming
Nintendo over the rest*

Jonathan

I Believe

I believe in trust in relationships because it's the most important thing in any kind of relationship.

I wish for money because it buys me happiness.

I want to change the way I play Super Smash Bros, because I wanna become a pro.

Jonathan

Revenge is cruelty

My future contains freedom, forgiveness, change and success

You are in control of your secret dream

Your story contains many scars, laughter, and warmth

Have strength sunshine and sweetness in your world

Never break down, because of abuse and emptiness.

Be brilliant, not broken

Shine above all monsters

Escape a wrong fight

Try and survive a lost storm

Wonder is silence

Don't be confused by numb sirens

Jessica

Jonathan

Likes Video games and Ramen

Important People, J.T., family and friends

Faves are Super Mario Odyssey and Montreal Canadians

Dreams of becoming a game tester for Nintendo

Goals are to be wealthy and to live healthy

Problems with saving money, and fighting

Successes are ball hockey and video games

Neighbourhood is Chateauguay

I am Canadian and Montrealer

I am also kind, gentle, funny, gamer, sweet, strong, confident and brave, also loyal

ANGER IS:

1. *When I get in trouble for standing up for a friend*
2. *When I get taken away from my family, just to be placed in a group home*
3. *When the Montreal Canadiens keep tanking the season*
4. *Is when I am challenged to fight someone who is supposed to be more mature than me.*
5. *When I do not have enough money to buy a Nintendo switch*
6. *When I am in a relationship with a girl and then she tries to kill me in a bad way*
7. *When I am not allowed to have my Ramen when I want.*
8. *No matter what I do, I still get into trouble. Even when it is a good deed.*
9. *When I am not allowed to eat a lot of junk food during the week, no matter how much money I have.*
10. *When justice is not served properly*

Jonathan

*You know what you did
You know what you did to me
I'm Mr. Misery
You got me going crazy
Look what you have done to me
Mr.Misery*

*Why does Luigi's mansion
Make me think about Scarlett Johansson?
I guess it was just luck
But it also sucks
Like Jim Henson*

Jonathan

I Believe

I believe in true love because everyone deserves and belongs to someone that will care for them no matter what.

And I wish for someone who loves me and cares for me.

Because I absolutely need it in my life and I am starting to lose hope.

I want to change everything about me because I am not the right "type" for anyone out there.

But, that will never happen. I am hopeless.

Mr.Misery

KEEP IT

Why do you keep it?

Because what if they run

What if they hide

But you don't have too

I will stay by your side

Please just stop.

Whatever, never mind.

Kimanni

I feel numb, I feel pain, I feel weakness in my veins.

Forgive my cold, broken, lost heart that is full of emptiness. I am confused. Do I have a home? I need to escape from the cruelty of myself. Let in the warmth of the Angel of Death. Let me be free from my wrongs. Let me survive! I have been broken down. My life is only a scar that is not wanted. Let there now be silence.

Mr.Misery

I took a big breath before playing the banjo kazooie for the better of my life. After 6 hours of gaming, I took a break to go to sleep in my bed. I never want to go back because I suck at this beautiful game but I went back to build on my progress with the bear and the bird. I had to be brave to take on all the boss battles one by one to become the best hero in the game. I must say that was one big game.

Jonathan

*I am Mr. Misery
I wonder if I will get better
I hear my heart beating
I see myself fading away
I want to be transparent and fly away
I am Mr. Misery
I pretend I am alright, but I cry at night
I feel pain, and it won't go away
I worry if the pain won't go away
I cry all night
I am Mr. Misery
I understand that there is no going back
I say "I got to get away"
I dream that everything will be ok, but it's not
I try to feel better, but it gets worse
I hope I am okay and that I get better by every passing day until I pass away
I am Mr. Misery
Mr.Misery*

I am very sleepy....zzzz

I wonder about my family

I hear the cries of depressed people

I see a light of hope

I want a good future

I am a lion full of courage

I pretend to be strong in sad situations

I feel scared for myself and my future

Jonathan

I crack under change. The crack becomes the crisis. The crisis is the closure. The closure drives me crazy. I am the calamity. They criticize and victimize, that's what I see in my eyes. I keel over and cry, and then I die. The chaos is gone. Now goodbye

Mr.Misery

Happy

Amazed, excited

Glad, Proud, great

Lovely, unique, video games

Nintendo Switch Mario

Luigi's mansion

Joyful

Jonathan

Keep It

I like to keep it 100% real rather than live a fake life in a fake world. No more fake friends, just real friends.

Jonathan

Gay

You're gay

Gay go away

Please gay, get away,

Equality is today

Gay okay

Okay

Stavros

Where to Stay

I want to get away

Tell your problems to stay

Keep moving my way

Get out of my way

Before I put you away

Please just keep away

Stavros

So easy to get attached

But so hard to detach

Laughter and good moments

One moment and the next

You're alone, and don't feel like the best

It's okay, I'm here to remove it like a pest

Stay checked

Jennifer

Loneliness

You're alone

Don't worry I'll be your stone

Your Patrick

And I'm your home store

Just stay home

Stavros

JENNIFER

UNIQUE, ILLUSIONAL

I AM POSITVE

A MOTIVATED DETERMINED WOMAN

BEAUTY IS ART

PRECISE, PERFECTIONIST, ME

HEALED PERSON

JENNIFER

Speak out and use our freedom and just shine. Ur in control of your future dreams no matter the joy. An angel is on your side to help you survive. Revenge is a weakness down the road without happiness or forgiveness.

Andrew

Blue is Like...

Blue is like feeling sad

Blue is like the worst colour ever

Blue is soft

BLUE

The ocean water

The natural ambrosia that is plain

Blue is like a perfect day where the sun shines

Group Poem

Sour as toxic candy

But I'm sweet as the aftertaste

Independent as Beyonce

Tired like a sloth

Happy like my childhood

Still curious like I am 6.

Bright like a halo

Smart like a good stock

Everywhere like a radar

Red like a cherry on top

Shining like a queen's pearls

Advanced like the bigger picture

Picky like a judge

Crazy like a joke

Got riders like polo

Blossoming like flowers

Bitchy

Clear like clean water

Calm like a cat

Views like the CN tower

Artistic as MUA's

Hair long as this poem.

Jennifer

Jonathan's Similes

Sweet as a bowl of jelly beans

Noisy like a car stuck in traffic

Cold as the ice in the Arctic

Strong like a tornado destroying everything in its path

Happy as when I'm home playing on my Nintendo switch

Sad as a kid who got placed in a group home.

Black as a Nintendo switch

Smart as a smartass

Red just like blood dripping from my wrist

Blinded within the truth inside

Thirsty for friendship

Sick of this garbage lifestyle

Tired of the lies I got told

Angry like when the Habs didn't make the Playoffs

Brave as Link fighting Calamity Ganon

In the Legend of Zelda Breath of the Wild

Calm like the wind breeze

Kind like an old granny

Hard as a jawbreaker

Dead as a door nail

Andrew's List

Money: Pcq sa m'apport de la joy.

Love: I love my family.

Loyalty: Cuz it brings Royalty

Saint Vincet: Vincy

Happiness, Cuz I am a mostly a happy guy.

Family: I love my family

Rich: Cuz Imma be rich

Danger: cuz life is dangerous

Mommy: Cuz she is my love

Daddy: because he is my creator

Brother: because I love him.

Practice makes perfect

No pain, no gain

Keep trying and don't give up

If you don't try you will never succeed

It's harder than it sounds

Never expect perfection

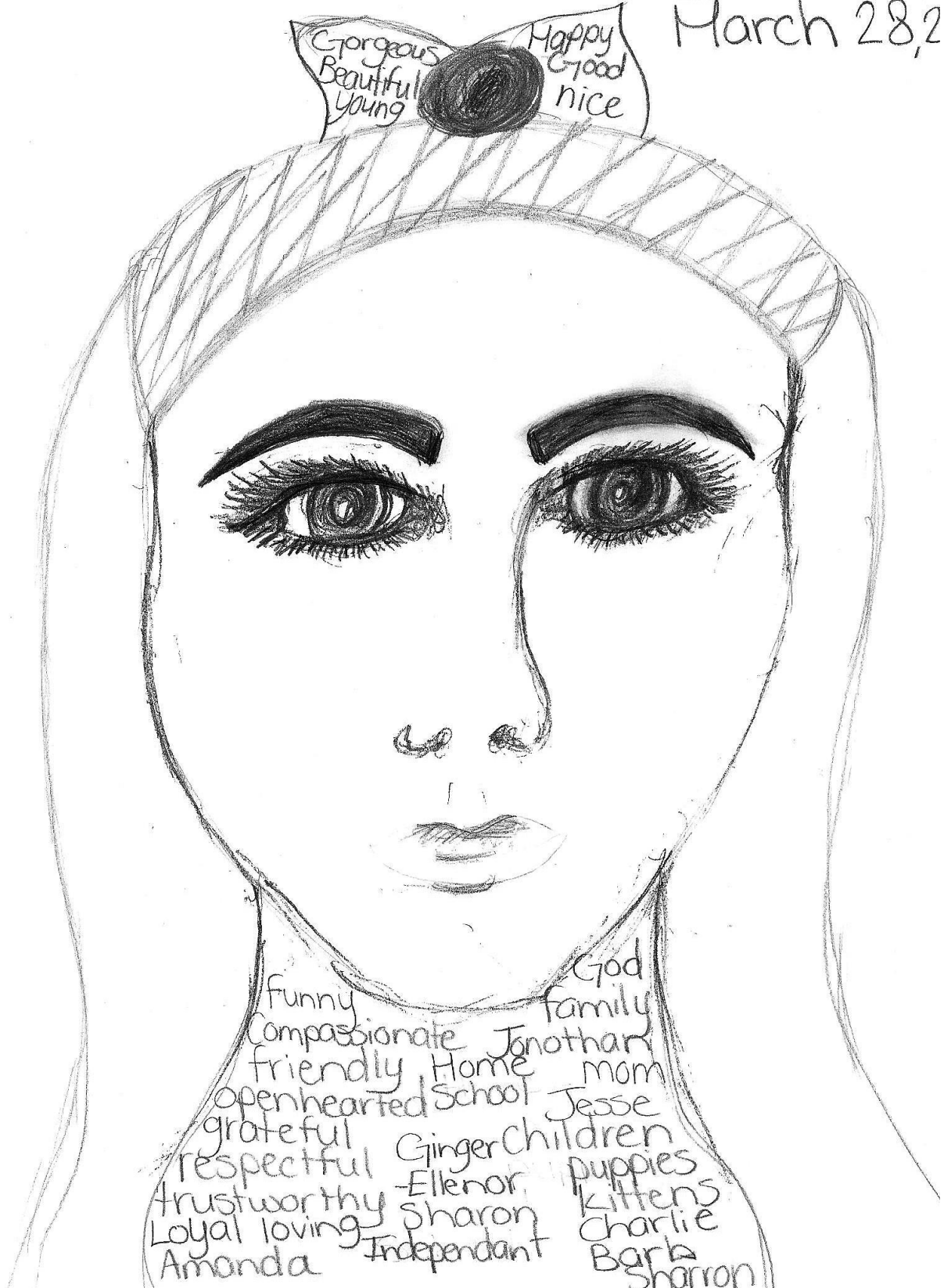
If you fall pick yourself up and try again

And if you don't, you will continue falling to your demise

Perfection makes no sense without giving all your best.

Group Poem

Jessica H
March 28, 2



Ask Yourself What?

Ask yourself what is the worst that could happen

And write it with a pen!

Ask yourself why you talk to certain people

And why you are doing drugs

Ask yourself what is wrong in this group home

And then what is wrong with you!

What do you need to fix on?

A beautiful life you have.

Group Poem**Breathe**

Breathe in the toxins

Breathe in the fresh breeze of life

Breathe in, breathe out

Breathe out your final puff of air that is left

Breathe like it was your last day on earth

Group Poem

I am bored
I wonder when somebody will entertain me
I hear people talking
I see the TV playing
I want to be entertained
I am bored
I pretend to do something
I feel bored
I worry if I will ever being entertained
I cry when I have nothing to do
I am bored
I understand that I don't have a life
I say I have a life
I dream to have a life someday
I try to keep myself entertained
I hope to be entertained
I am bored

AJ

Deer Decoy

How fast can you dash across that 100m track?
Do you have a date with destiny or do you deal with defeat?
I am the definition of danger. If you see me it's only in a dream
If you dare meet me one day I'll be damned
I am the devil. I only welcome death
I deteriorate and decay, it's my only success
I dance on the dirt on top of your grave
In the end I'm the damned demon

AJ

Similes

Sweet as a new video game coming out

Noisy like this house gets right before poetry

Cold as my heart is when I don't give a shit about nobody

Strong as how I have been growing up

Happy as the feelings I don't have for the system

Sad as the unshed tears 'cause too many people have left me

Black as the night sky as I'm walking down the street alone

Smart as everybody expects me to be

Red as my bloodied heart after I have just been stabbed in the back

Blind as I am unseen from everybody else

Thirsty as my heart aches for somebody to care about me

Sick of the bullshit being thrown my way

Tired of people not giving a crap about me

Angry as the emoji when the police took me away from my family

Brave as I have been living in the system since I was young

Calm as this house never is

Kind as I have been to people who don't understand what I have gone through

Hard as my life has been growing up

God has not really cared about me or my family

AJ

THE WORST POEM EVER

My Life.

AJ

Wake Up

Wake up everybody
And look at the storm comin'
Blood in the streets
And the tears in my eyes runnin'

Recognize who I am
Release 'em out the can
Never was an animal or three fourths of a man
They set us up for peacefully

Wasn't in god's plan
If we all created equally
Why these officers beatin' me?
Divided as people

Then all we need is some unity
A unified front and then we build our community
Put our pennies together
And put an end to poverty
And violence is not the answer
War's worse the cancer
But peace never come
With frustration and anger
A nation that's divided
Well that's a nation in danger...

AJ



Anonymous

Keep it

I don't need your comments keep it to yourself

During Christmas time I'm always the elf

Cuz I'm small and got a voice like no one else

It feels like people are stacking me on shelves

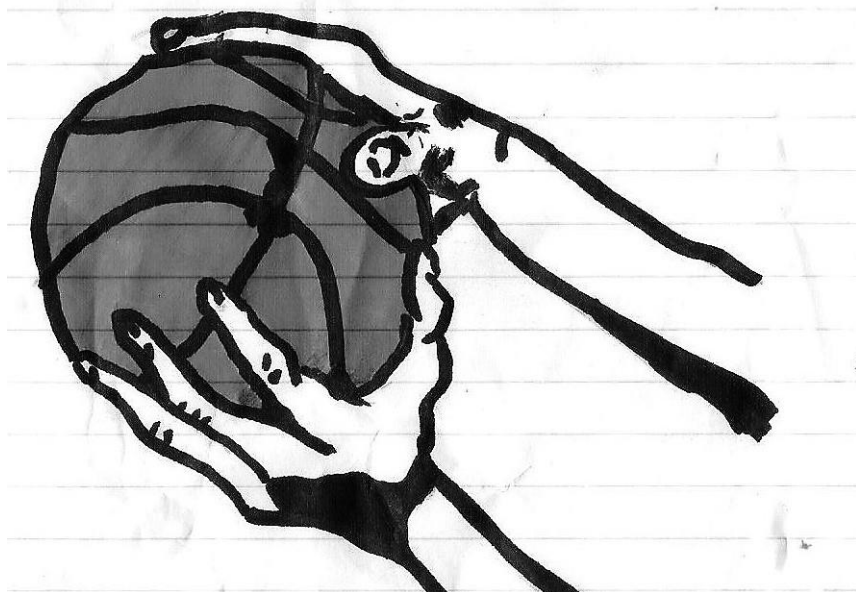
And leaving me to fend for myself

AJ

Snow Day

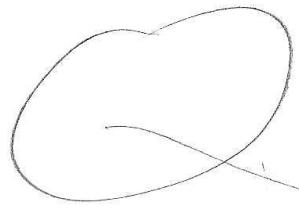
Out of all days why is today not the snow day? 5 days a week I'm at school trying to stay cool when most days I wanna be at the pool acting like a fool chilling with my crew. Then we head home and talk on the phone and wait for the ice cream cone from my mom that I have never known.

AJ



AJ

And new AKA Rando.



funny

Money

Royalty

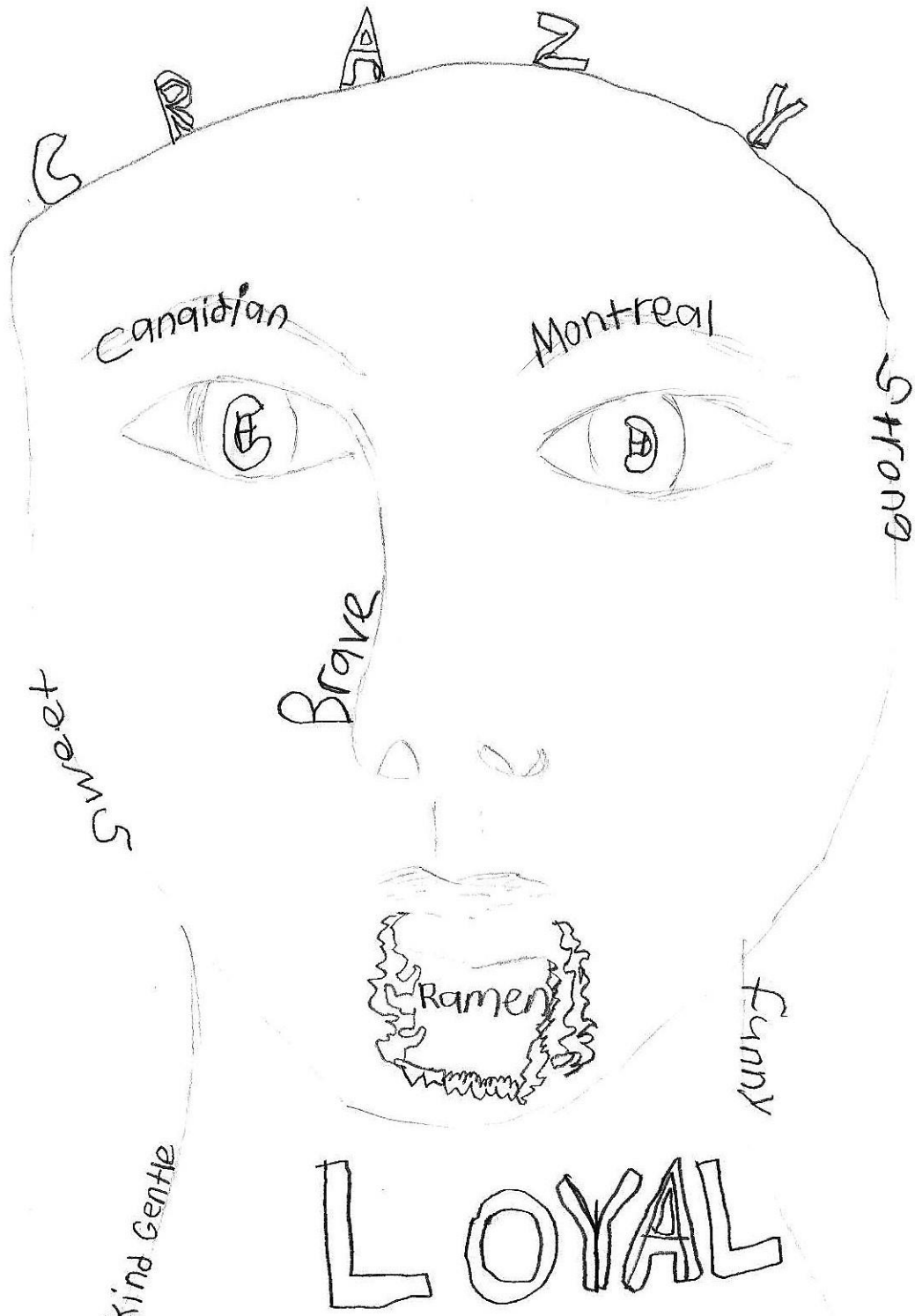
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Family

loyalty

Respectful





Anonymous

uphill backward. "We don't know yet. The attack's ongoing."

He spun back around and redoubled his speed, dashing the curving street toward the bottom of the Gard path. Clary concentrated on not crashing into anyone in the crowd. There were a moving, jostling flood of people. She kept her hands on Jace's as they ran, her new sword tapping against the outside of her leg as she went, as if to remind her it was there—there, ready to be used.

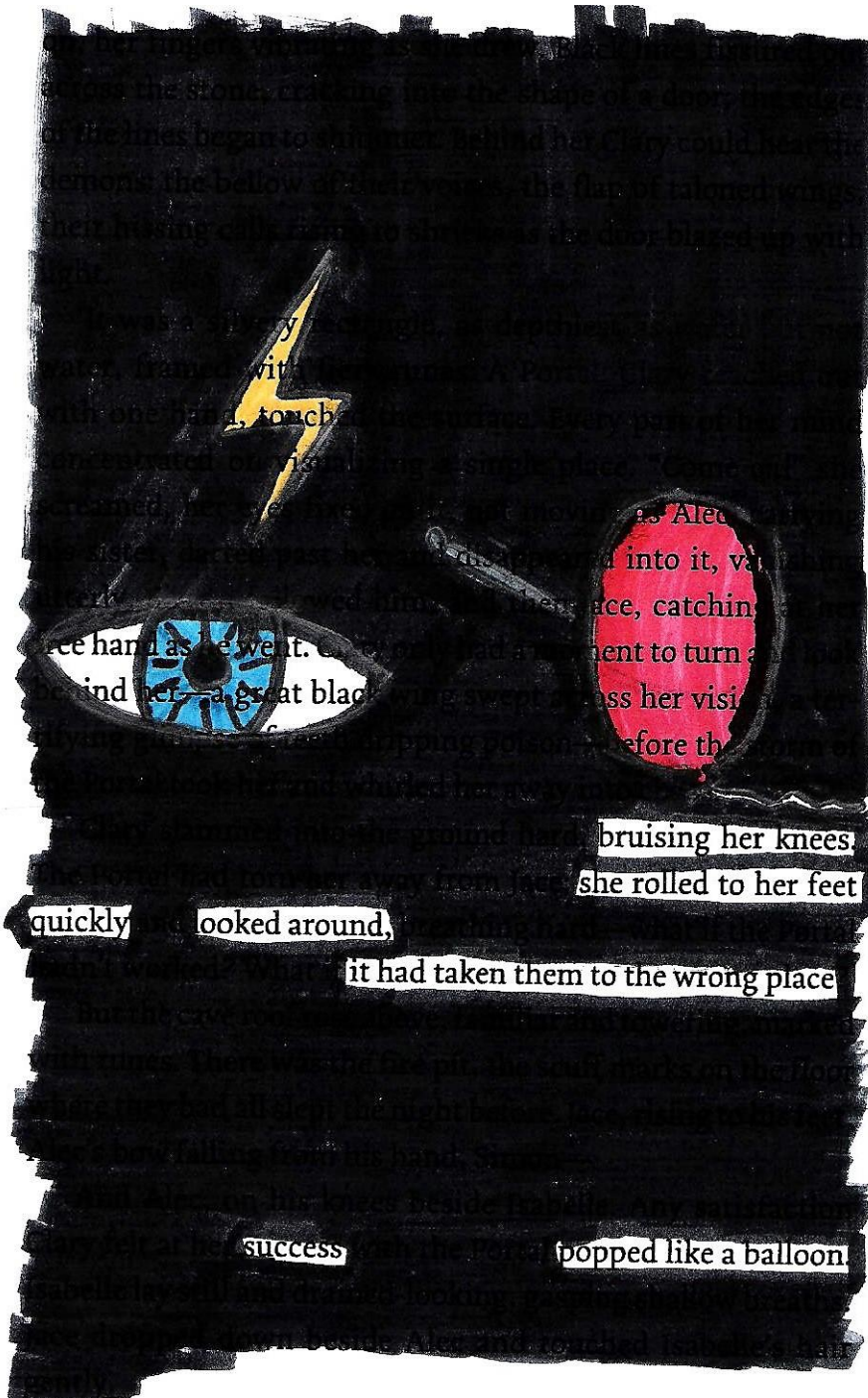
The path that led up to the Gard was steep, packed close. Clary tried to run carefully—she was wearing boots and jeans, and her gear jacket zipped over the top, but it wasn't quite as good as being all in gear. A pebble had worked its way into her left boot somehow and was stabbing into the pad of her foot by the time they reached the front gate of the Gard and slowed, staring.

The gates were thrown open. Within them was a wide courtyard, grassy in the summers, though it was bare now, surrounded by the interior walls of the Gard. Against one wall was a massive, swirling square of whirling air and emptiness:

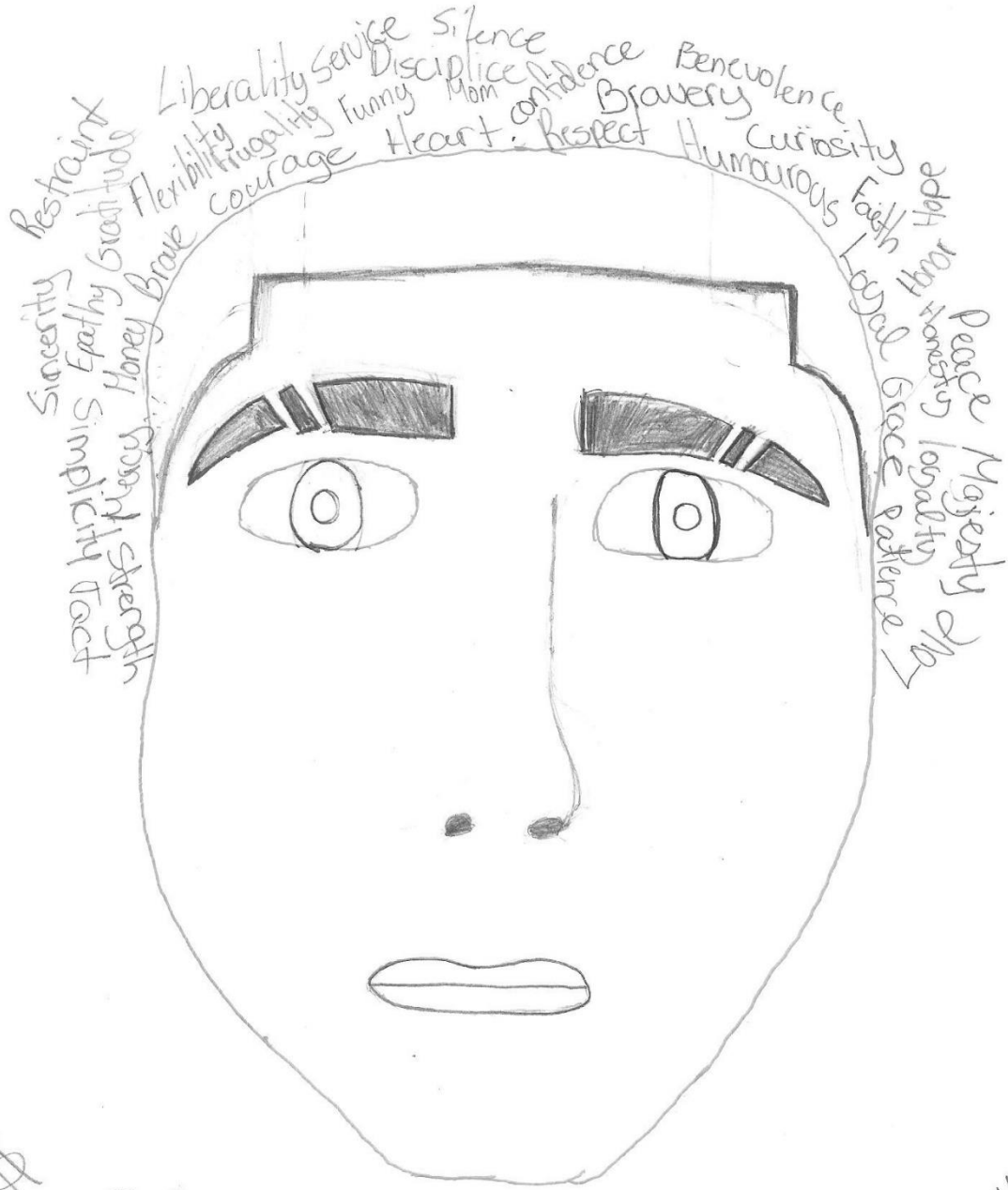
A Portal. Within it, Clary thought she could glimpse hints of black and green and burning white, even a patch of sky dotted with stars—

Robert Lightwood loomed up in front of them, blocking their way; Jace nearly crashed into him, and let go of Clary's hand, fighting himself. The wind from the Portal was cold and powerful, blowing through the fabric of Clary's gear jacket and tugging at her hair. "What's going on?" Jace demanded tersely. "This is about the London attack?" Clary thought that was rebuffed.

Robert shook his head, his expression grim. "It seems that Sebastian, having been foiled in London, has turned his attention elsewhere."



Mr. Misery



CV 64 64 64
 STAVROS #CV64
 Westside



The End