

Alpine Meadow

Dylan Morrow

Retrospect Literary Arts Magazine Ellensburg High School Volume 35, 2019 Walk

Editing Team

Olivia Anderson Imani Alexander Mady Eason Ruth Douglas

Graphic Design Team

Graphic Designer: Jada Godwin

Creative Writing Club Advisor:
Jon McClintick
Graphic Design Class Teacher:
Marcy Mathews

Cover Art

Front Cover:

Madison Panattoni - Arizona Sunset Dylan Morrow - Lonely Coast Back Cover: Maggie Bergevin - Untitled

Printing

Lyle Hancock, Ellensburg School District Print Shop

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All past editions of this magazine and a full color digital version can be viewed at our web page: https://www.esd401.org/ehs/activities/clubs/retrospect.

Questions? Comments? Email us: retrospect@esd401.org

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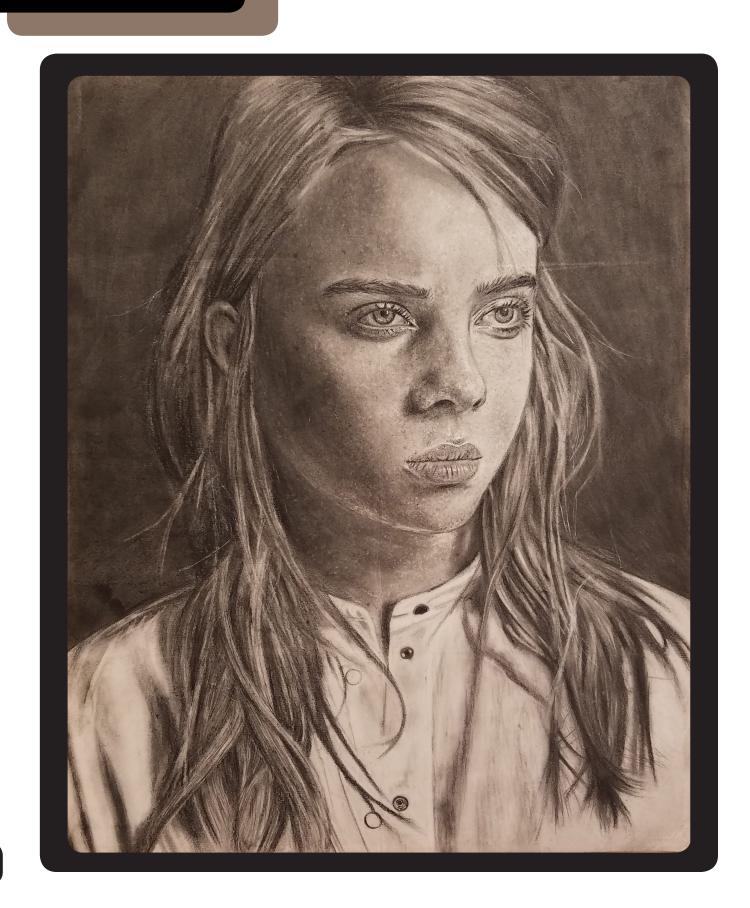
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"Untitled" Maggie Bergevin - Back Cover

Art

Best of EHS Contest Best Art, 2019

Stephanie Foley - Billie Eilish



Little daisy upon the sill When did you wilt away?

This morning I saw you white and gold, reflecting the morning smiles.

But you frown upon me now,

And I grieve to have you back.

You made me smile when tears fell

And I laughed along to my jokes.

But here you are; gone, as if I never knew you.

I spend my days picking wild flowers,

Uprooted with crumbling dirt.

I stare upon my window sill

A new daisy every day.

And it's hard, because none of them could ever replace you.

Best of EHS Contest Best Creative Writing, 2019

Faith Simcox - Daisy

Five Julys passed so quickly that I can't help but look back with a glance.

Mulling over minds and hearts, I can feel dissonance.

Chances that I've had make it worse.

All the memories that keep me up at night

And all the lives that have bent me, makes letting go impossible.

My soul is far from innocent, I've seen eyes and minds wonder

And in my current mental state it makes me wonder.

Because life's stresses tend to make you think

And under pressured times I've been inclined to get too loud.

But all the while I've been the kind to quiet down.

I curse the ones who sunk me, but never mention who.

I've built ships in bottles, nothing more than antiques in the back of my mind.

And while it never seems to impress anyone, at least it's gotten me out of bed.

I've tried to hide and turn real life away, imagining ships long sailed and sank or yet to come.

I'm not the same, but I'm not about to complain.

It's too much time and energy to try and turn back.

nothing's broken except for the dreams that went up in smoke.

Somehow I'm moving on and it pains me.

It's harder to see what really bothers me.

although some would say otherwise.

The quiet has more noises than I'm used to as I try to find my place.

I'm done with feinting excuses.

I just can't stand these darker grays of days, they're making me go mad

I want to stop every clock until I'm able to talk

But then would I even be able to walk the walk?

No, I'd just restart the clocks.

I'd let the world talk first and then I'd walk. Watching with my eyes and feeling the shock of the world and its stars, keeping stock on the world.

Feinting Excuses

Greggory Cole

Tortilla Flatts

Madison Panattoni



The Star (Of Minneapolis) Valentyna Belofsky

Rush into the cinema heart on your sleeve ticket up in pocket closed enchantment never leaves

a girl walk into a movie scene it all feels like one's in a dream she wishes on the star she sees because he's so surreal

and painfully controlled, mesmerizing mystery inflicts desire, agonizing desire to know more, and the star takes your heart



Beauty

Felice Bellow

Thoughts burn when in doubt Your fears find light, You're now lost Escape the dark, at what cost

Mia Pollock

The Ember

Orion Walker

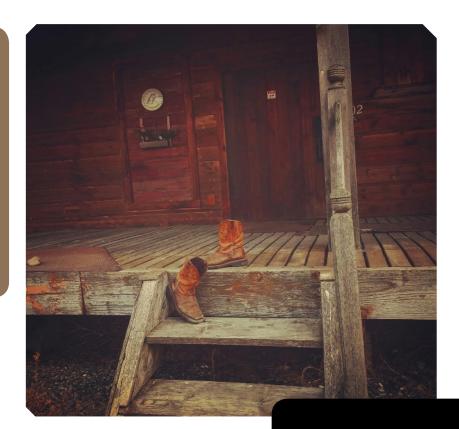
Where do you go to find yourself when lost?
From where does truth, the light, the life, derive?
How can we find the path hidden by frost?
To know the truth and the answer contrive
Is to accept your life the way it is.
To discern the whole is for peace to find.
It is hard, is it not? Your test, this quiz?
Your answer is too vague you say in mind.
You youth, you deaf and unseeing spirit.
The joy, pain, love, hate, indifference. The path.
If not sad than how glad? Can you hear it?
Can you see it? Been on the path you hath.
Without a whole there can be no members.

New Year

Life is like the light on the path: at ember.

Madison Panattoni

Untitled Hunter Hughes



Love is Everything

Avery Dean

Love: exasperating and omnipotent,

One dose is a drug, very potent.

It takes your brain and plays with it like a feral beast full of rage.

It makes you feel as if you're in a cage,

Then fills your daring heart with a jubilant liveliness.

There is no ugliness,

It is the boogie woogie of life.

It is sometimes filled with strife.

From one place to the next like a film flam.

Damn!

But love is life

Without love we have nothing to live fore

Love even with its deranged mentality is what really matters

Everything else in this great big world means nothing, I'm flattered.

Wings To Fly Emily Carter

There is a place not far away Where people drag through their day

They walk along never looking left or right Absorbed in sorrow they walked along without fight

They drag you see because on each wrist was found A chain and ball that grew with every mean, cruel sound

In this place there lived a girl who trugged each day to school Her chain was quite large to say, they tell her that she'll never be cool

"You're ugly, and clumsy," they called. Her chain grew so big, she tripped over it From the ground she looked up at the sky, tears forming as she sank into her pit

There, up in the sky was the strangest sight she ever did see It was a boy with glorious wings! Flying! How could that be?

He saw her and waved giving a cheerful smile Such a happy smile had not been seen for miles

As she got up, the girl's burden did not feel quite that bad It was the strangest moment she'd ever had

The next day the girl walked with an eye to the sky Halfway thinking what she'd seen was a lie

But there he was gliding on brilliant wings The girl wondered how he hand managed to accomplish these things

The next day the boy came down, his smile kind He said, hovering inches off the ground, "You are the type of girl I've been trying to find"

He held out his hand offering, "Do you want to fly?"
The girl looked at him, his glittering wings, "I've got no wings to fly, good-by"

The boy was not deterred, the next day he stopped her again. He offered to let her fly. How wonderful it would be to pretend.

The girl didn't let herself do so, gathered her chain she left with a look of sorrow. "I have no wings to fly," the boy looked at her as he rose, he would try again tomorrow

That day he appeared so suddenly, they almost collide "I'll carry you through my flight." he tried

Oh how she longed to be up in the sky, but she remembered the weight of her chain "I do not wish to drag you down. I have no wings to fly myself. I do not want to cause you pain."

As they parted that morning the boy had a lot on his mind How was he supposed to show her he was just being kind

The next day as the girl was walking the boy did not come She stopped where they'd met the past few days feeling glum

Just was she was about to go he showed up his eyes inviting "I have no wings to fly," she cried with sobs frightening

The boy said nothing but touched to the ground and took her weight in his hands. He wrapped his arms around the girl like comforting bands.

"Do you know," he whispered after a time, "That I too once had a chain." "I've walked the ground, my head hung low, I understand the pain."

"I tossed my weight away from me, I made my glittering wings"
"I can now hear every day the lovely sun, oh how it sings."

He backed away to look at her, "I'll tell you how to do it too" "This world's hard, mean to all, the difference between wings or chain is all with what you do."

"Be kind to others, look past your chain to lighten those around you." "It will lighten yours along the way and you'll start to grow wings too."

The girl, eyes bright with tears, looked about for the second time she ever had The people around her staggered about all feeling sad

As she watched she saw some fall unable to carry their weight The girl cried in dismay as she saw the sorrow and hate

She rushed over to a fallen man and sank to her knees As she helped him up and grabbed his weight she felt as strong as trees

The girl carried both her own and his and through the town they walked The man spoke his burdens, and as he did both hers and his were lightened as they talked

> The boy and girl crossed paths many times after that Each helping another their own weight forgotten, sat

The more she helped the lighter her weight got Until one day she noticed that it was off

The girl did not know when the chain had disappeared But only focused on the happiness of others she cheered

One day later she looked in the mirror to find wings of gold on her back Once the motive for her work it was just something extra in the sack

> She stepped out and launched herself into the air She heard the sun singing without a care

The boy smiled at her as they met in the sky
The girl returned his sparkling smile, "I finally have wings to fly."

The boy happy with her too asked, "so what will you do now?" Her heart felt full and she replied, "I will teach other to make wings so they'll know how."

The two flew about and their numbers grew to fill sky Everyone should help another and create wings to fly

Footfalls of my Past

Maggie Bergevin

She sat and watched her toes In the lamplight looking bare Fragile, homeless, unprotected She was shoeless and afraid

The flat and tattered pair Lay unreachable Under her bed but also miles away Where yesterday's footsteps fell

Solid cobblestone Cold lingering still in her bones Remembering the damp Numbness that seeped into her heart

Greying flats next to springy pink sneakers A duller shade than at first put on Chosen to take the final steps away Longing to look back Afraid of causing her to trip and fall

At last sat the boots standing straight and bright Holding in themselves the memories Always hidden, tied up in the laces Wanting to be worn again

She struggled in vain to slip on the moments Crying for the return of that time, that warmth Reaching around for comfort and protection Fingers brushed against hope

She softly pulled it up around her toes A cover of peace and silence, giving way to joy Warmth came as slowly as sleep Never realizing it was there until it was gone

Mixed Emotions
Gabriel Parker

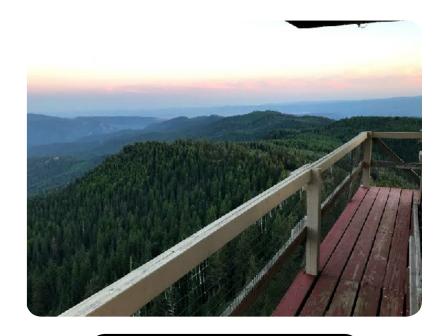




Love Katilyn Engle

Weather can be unpredictable
Whether it's raining or its fragile snow.
I've danced with the wind,
I've gotten lost in the fog,
I've been kissed by the sun,
I've cried in the rain.

Does this weather pattern
Define me?
The rays of the sun,
The droplets of rain,
Soak into my skin.
Saturating beauty.



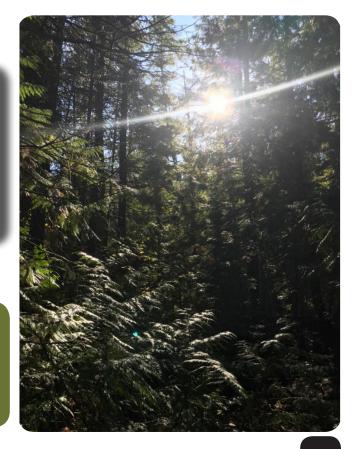
Untitled
Hunter Hugh

The same tree, each day
We walk by without a single glance
We miss what we admire

Sarahlyn Gatley

Cedar Forest

Dylan Morrow



Lilies

Ruth Douglas



Sheet

Katilyn Engle

She is nothing.

Just a black sheet before your eyes.

But out of this apocalyptic world, a special set of eyes see more.

She is a black sheet of stars, glistening and blinding.

Perhaps this is why no one saw her.

This special set of eyes had a body,

And he loved her.

His words created galaxies and planets.

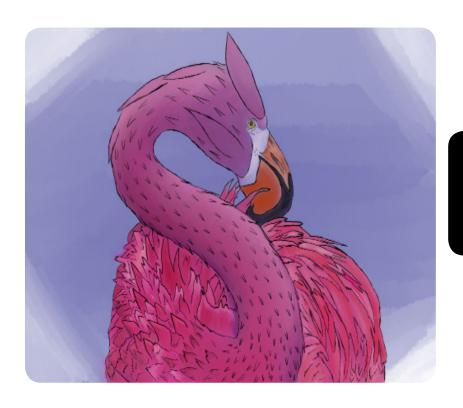
His touch created colors, bursting into her sheet.

Making her deeper, bigger, glorious.

She is something.

Feathers of Snow Sarahlyn Gatley

White feathers of snow capture the eye of the sun
Threads of light glistening upon the unique forms
The clouds of soft ivory entice the heavens
As they release dancers into the sky
They perform a sweet chasse en tournent
As they fall softly to the ground
When the curtain of clouds closes
The dancers fall to find sleep on the tops of evergreen trees



Dementia

Austin Ketzenberg

Turtles are baller But yet they can't ball; kobe Turtles are the best

Ruth Douglas

Giardia Quentin Berkey

The goal of this essay is to inform the audience of what the dangerous effects of Giardia are and what the differences in a severe case vs a non severe case is, the steps of diagnosing it, the road to recovery, and how it affected me in my journey throughout this illness. I will be including many personal elements on how this experience was different for me than most cases. Giardia is the most common global waterborne parasitic human infection, and is processed into the system through consuming contaminated foods or drinks. There was under 20,000 cases in a year in the U.S. 2011-2012 (Gargano).

Giardia Lamblia Cysts are processed through fecal matter and remain alive in cold environments. Your average day hiker and adventurer have the possibility of contracting it through the "hand to oral route", unprotected anal intercourse is also a cause, unfiltered drinking water or poorly sanitized food is one of the most common ways, and you could even contract it from your local pool if someone there has it and infects the water since giardia cannot be killed with chlorine. In some very rare cases, even pets can pass it to humans. The Giardia Lamblia Cyst enters the small intestine where the cyst cell divides into two trophozoites using mitosis. Meaning, they divide into two equal parts with the same design from the "mother" to produce hundreds of thousands of "daughters". These parasites continue to multiply and slowly head toward the colon, turning into cysts to be extruded from the body. "In 10 days there could be 1 million parasites, and in two weeks a billion Giardia" ("Life Cycle and Transmission"). Those who become infected can continue to excrete the cyst for years but could experience no symptoms of illness.

The horrible problem with Giardia is that it can be so easy to confuse with other illnesses. Once infected, it changes the response of your immune system. With symptoms taking a week to two weeks to start (or being asymptomatic even once fully infected), most doctors don't have a clue to test for Giardia until a month or more has passed and once they've tested for other things. Symptoms can consist of stomach and abdominal cramps, gas and belching, and diarrhea or greasy floating stools that stink. Less commonly there can be anorexia, vomiting, and a fever. Giardia can prevent your body from accumulating the fats, vitamins, and nutrients it needs, causing weight loss. Malnutrition or slow growth has occurred in children with severe Giardiasis (Acharya). Giardia can also actually cause some nutrition disorders or even chronic diarrhea. Because of all the different symptoms and how everybody experiences it differently, Giardia can be misdiagnosed

as the common stomach flu or many other infections and diseases.

Giardia can have some major long term effects on the body as well. It is reported by Marie CM Halliez and Andre G Buret in the World Journal of Gastroenterology that in very rare cases, Ocular Pathologies can occur meaning that it can create eye diseases. Giardia can also cause hypokalemia which means there is a potassium deficiency in the blood, and from that something called myopathy can develop which is a disease that attacks the muscles causing weakness. Within 2 to 4 weeks after infection, Giardia can lead to "infection related arthritis" because the immune system's responses change and therefore it can be common in many cases. I find it peculiar that your inflammatory response system won't respond in the same manner as previously causing this strange affliction. One weird thing that can occur is once infected, the bacteria changes how your food is processed and can cause you to become sensitive and cause allergic reactions to things that did not affect you previously. There has also been a connection between Giardiasis and IBS (irritable bowel syndrome) development. When Giardia contaminates your system, there is no clue how it could change who you are or how you respond to things since every infection is a case by case scenario.

The treatment to Giardia can be just as difficult as diagnosing it. Because cases are so different for each individual, it's hard to say whether someone is going to need medication to get over it. If after a few weeks symptoms remain and they know for sure that you have Giardia, they will usually give you a oral pill to treat it. As wrote in the Pediatric Clinics of North America by Meagan A Barry and Jill E Weatherhead, Giardia can be cured with several different medications. Metronidazole is three doses a day, Tinidazole is the same as metronidazole but only one dose a day, and Nitazoxanide is a liquid form of the medication that is usually given to kids because it can be easier to ingest. Only Tinidazole and Nitazoxanide are allowed in the US. They are antiparasitic and antiviral drugs used to fight off Protozoa (meaning single celled) infections. The problem with the medications is that they can have negative side effects like nausea, metallic taste in the mouth, flatulence, yellow eyes, or brightly colored urine. Since everybody is different, finding out which treatment is the best to cure giardia is very difficult.

When I was young, I was very overweight. At the end of eighth grade I was tired of being looked down on and picked on for my size. I spent most of my summer riding my bike to the gym by my dads work because his friend was professional bodybuilder and owned it. He took me under his wing and spent a lot of time training me and teaching me how to do extreme strength training routines and getting me set up on a diet. I started working up to 3 hours a day trying to change my body mass because of how embarrassed it made me feel. After the gym, I would ride my bike to Meadowbrook Bridge where the water was really deep. My friends would always hangout down there, so once I would get done working out we would all go jump off the bridge. To this day, I still believe that river is what got me sick.

When I started my freshman year of high school, I started to get very ill. It took about a month to have the illness fully consume me, and then I stopped attending school. At first, I was just puking randomly. I would attend school on a day where I felt good, then half way through the day I would get sick out of nowhere and they would have to send me home. It lasted around three months where I was really sick and couldn't attend school, but for about six months total, I was just unwell in general. During that time I lost almost a hundred pounds. In the first month they thought I had some type of flu and they didn't give me any medicine or anything. After the first two weeks of not attending school because of sickness, I had lost about twenty five pounds. Every morning I would wake up from a dead sleep between around five to seven AM and I would start viciously dry heaving until I would puke. It was so difficult to eat that I'd just drink as much water as possible when my stomach could stand it and eat as many crackers as I could. When I went to my primary care physician who I have been going to my entire life, they started sending me to all different sorts of specialists because they had never seen anything like my case!

After around a month of not eating, puking, and not being able to go to school, they got me scheduled for multiple different procedures. Because it was so hard to determine what was wrong, they sent me to stomach specialists, someone who could test my allergies and see if my body was reacting negatively to something, and they even gave me a full body MRI and cat scan to see if I had any malignant tumors in my body. I had to get an EGD (esophagogastroduodenoscopy), meaning they looked at my esophagus, stomach and the beginning of my small intestine, and a colonoscopy so they could see my large intestine. The scariest thing I went through though had to be getting my brain scanned and having to sit in this loud machine for almost an hour while my mom cried and begged the nurse to tell her what my scans looked like, which the nurse wasn't able to disclose any of that information.

At one point the doctors sat me down and said, "since we still have no diagnosis, you need to hear this. There may be a chance you could die because of how long you've had these symptoms and they aren't getting any better". If I hadn't been so heavy the doctors believed I would have died, so I guess my weight was a blessing in disguise. After my EGD results came back, they had found that there was traces of giardia creating ulcers or lesions in

my stomach. Because my diagnosis was never certain, they gave me an extremely weird test where I drank this really gross lemon flavored liquid and had me breathe into three different bags. The results came back as a partially false negative, so they decided to treat me for it. The medicine they gave me for Giardia was hard to keep down because I threw up so much. I never actually finished the prescription they gave me, I just started to get better and it went away. The sickness made me so skinny and unrecognizable that when I went back to school after three months, kids thought I was someone new. It was hard to process that everyone wanted to be my friend and hangout with me just because I looked different. Looking back on how my life changed, I really wish people had treated me the same post-sickness as they did pre-sickness. Adjusting to my new self and how everyone treated me really showed me a different side to this world.

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Untitled

Hunter Hughes

WHEN PENCIL

Maeve Jared Gomez-Vilchis

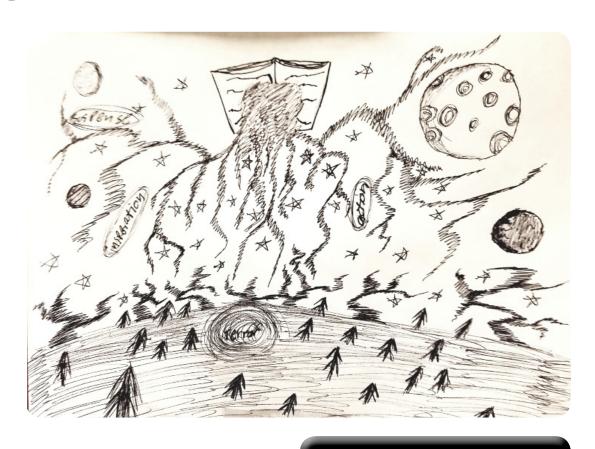




Bridge of the Knonovisk

James Libenow

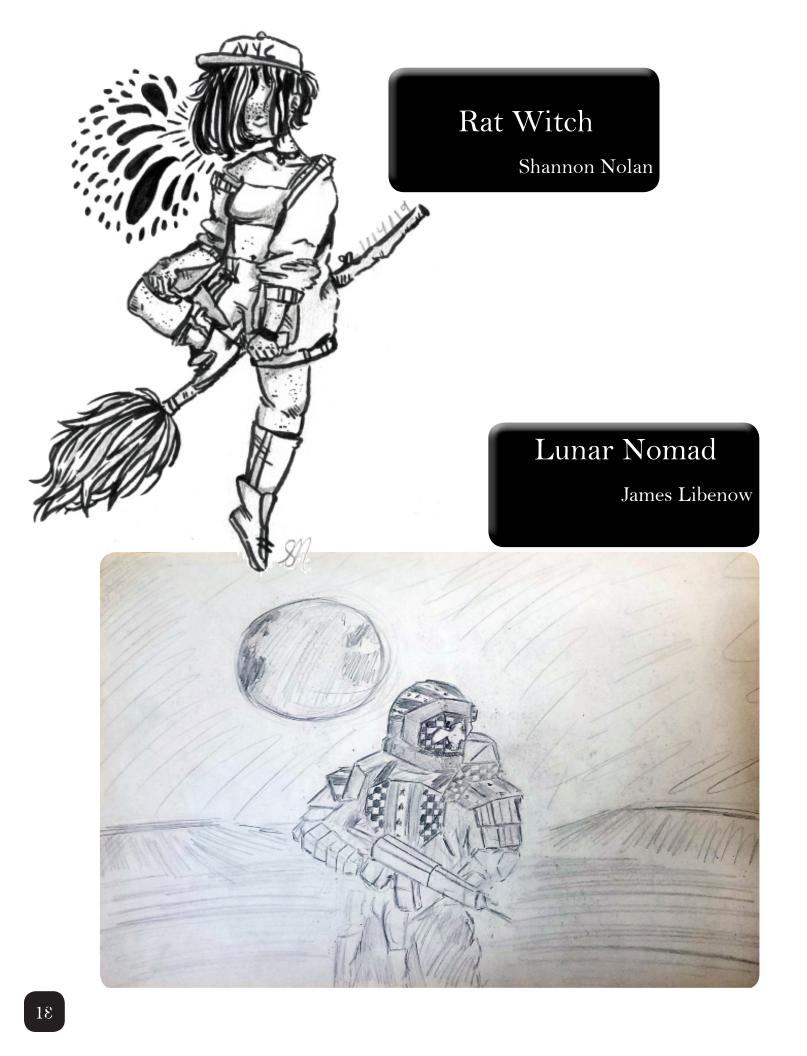
HITS PAPER





Inkheart
Austin Ketzenberg

I Am Groot Katilyn Engle



French
Katilyn Engle

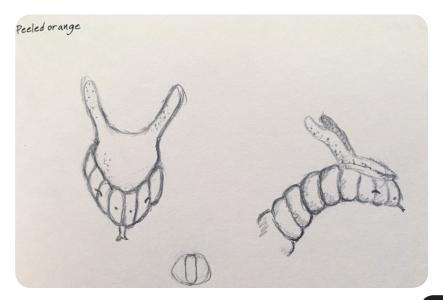




Judas

Jared Gomez-Vilchis

The Orange Dragon
Ruth Douglas





Black Horn Raiders (top)

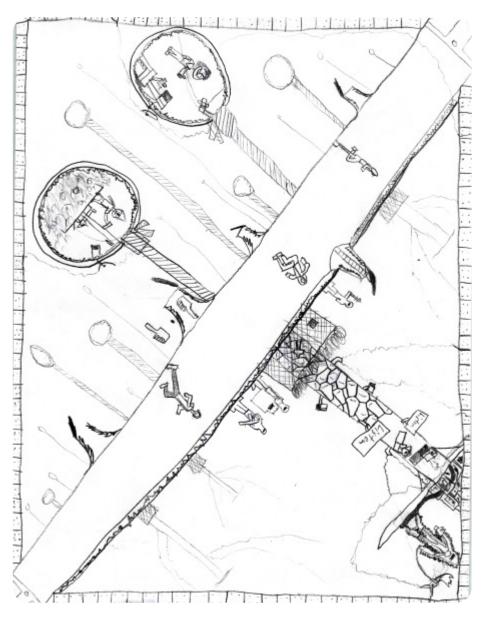
James Libenow

Blood (bottom)

Deliah O'Brien

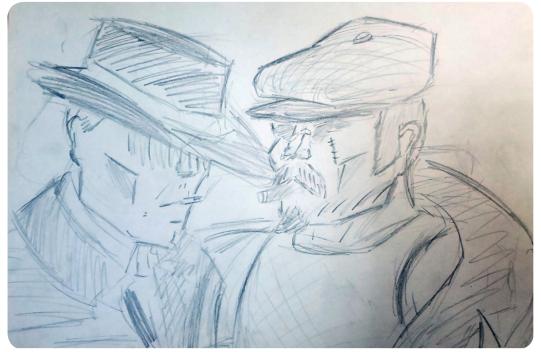


Listener's Relationahip Ben Lombardi



Reggeta

James Libenow



Untitled
By

Untitled
Sarahlyn Gatley

Look beyond the frost of the breeze Beyond the blizzard lies emotion Hiding behind the flakes of frozen seas

Trying to move but thrown in the oceans of unease It floats away, its message hidden

Look beyond the frost of the breeze

The turbulence of the ocean throws it to the height of trees

Deeper into the water, yet preserved

Hiding behind the flakes of frozen seas

Slowly, it floats up to the surface and is once again seized Hiding behind the glaciers of secrets Look beyond the frost of the breeze

Yet, it stays hidden not for long in the freeze For pirates roam the frozen oceans Hiding behind the flakes of frozen seas

He opens the hidden message, a disease Flakes of frozen water become liquid Look beyond the frost of the breeze Hiding behind the flakes of frozen seas

Pocahontas

Mady Eason



Growing up

Isaiah Taylor

Growing up is tired Growing up is work Growing up tastes like bitter coffee And feels like not really caring

What used to be a warm cup full
o' Hazelnut creamer with a splash of coffee
is now a bitter cup of room-temperature
caffeine

Growing up is getting excited about good deals on toilet paper and losing interest in holidays

Growing up is secluded and happy Growing up is whole-grain, low-fat, and sugar-free.

Untitled

Hunter Hughes



Found Ruth Douglas

The gentle whisper of the field Calling me

Deeper into the entanglement of my mind
Further trapping me in thought
I feel my body slipping away
Hopeless
Useless
Unable to fight
It's hard to contain myself
Yet some sort of power fills me

Determination

It echoes in the pits of my soul
I feel my body come back to me

My heart

For a while it has been lost Unable to find it I gave up Thought it had been sold or stolen

But there it lay

Still beating

Slightly broken

Perfect nonetheless



Alpine Meadow Dylan Morrow

One hand Clapping Valentyna Belofsky

We live in the shadow of the fall.

A time when contradictory signals flash so fast that we don't know what's real.

A time when our addictions turn us apathetic and numb.

A time when we need therapy just to get through and average lifetime.

Our world, however lifeless, is like a zoo. Wild yet confined, exciting yet terrifying, tempting yet deadly.

It doesn't even matter if anything with substance is present.

All you have to do is make people believe and they will open up their wallets

to buy the gum

on the bottom of your shoes -

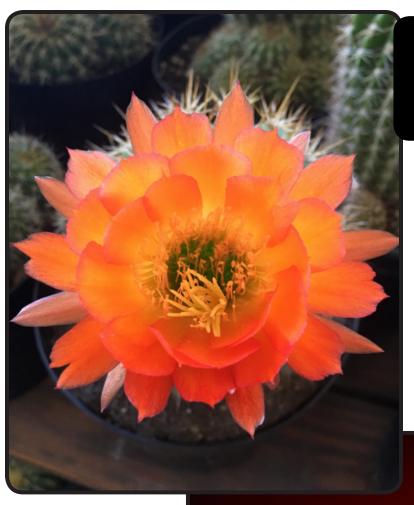
and there are no genuine connections,

only the sound of one hand clapping.





Dante Jesus Jeager Ackreman Kasen Christopherson



Cactus Bloom Madison Panattoni



Spiderman Mady Eason I watched people fight about money and cheating. I sit there waiting for the opportunity to strike.

I'm dark and cold as ice to everyone that comes to me. I'm a murderer of dreams and plans for all life. If you find me in the shadows all I'll do is vanish and leave you with nothing.

From the Sun to the Moon Hunter Hughes

I was a warm and happy figure awhile ago. There was nothing that could take being happy from me not even death of my family.

I was a beautiful and glowing place that everyone loved and worshipped. I was everything until I met her.

She got close to me and acted like she loved me than ruined me in just one second.

She hit me and broke me like I was a toothpick. I was helpless; it was scary.

When I realized what happen it was to late.

My eyes turned black and my soul left me as if I was a demon.

I blacked out and reappeared dark and mysterious. Everyone says there's impact on me from fighting, but I'll tell you what they really are and those are not impacts.

These craters are holes that cut deep in to my body like stab wounds on a dart board.

I made everything you know dark and cold just to punishment everyone. People hate me and dream upon me but I crush dreams when I see them.

I feel numb now, and I think I'm becoming warmer. I feel sick, and I have a fever-what is this?

I'm becoming warm and happy again; I'm giving back your warmth and light because I feel bad for the stresses I have caused to my friends.

Everybody has forgiven me and we are all happy again but in just a few hours I'll change again just to repeat my hate against all life.



Sunflower Madison Panattoni

My Everything Hunter Hughes

Her hair and gorgeous smile overpowers me. She's like an Angel that never made it to heaven.

Her body and voice could kill the average human because of how beautiful they both are.

I want to marry her in the future and spend my life with her because she is my everything. I want her to stay forever but we both know she will leave someday.

This girl needs me and I need her more.

Our interest are close to the same and it's amazing because it's stuff most girl wouldn't dare try to accomplish.

We could hug and kiss for the rest of our lives and hope nothing stops us.

One day I might loss her to a constant battle of life, it never talks a break and today is right where i want to be, I don't know about tomorrow but all I want today is her.

Her problems are my problems and her thoughts become mine. She's my everything and more. Through sickness and health we will be there for each other along with be there for our children

Hmm... think about that, children and soon grandparents. That shows us both that we are meant to be together for life.

All I need is the one chance to show her what I can do for her.

I only have her, my everything.

and their children.



I find you all so funny.

How easy you can play with my heart.

I've been through so many boys.

You all lie. Perhaps it's my fault.

Perhaps, I push all of you off the building. Some fall too fast or hit too hard. Caught up in all of the traffic and the busy city lights. You're blinded.

Perhaps

Katilyn Engle

Perhaps.

It can't be your fault. I'm the one who always leaves.

I feel I take too many hearts. I fill you up.

Fill you with happiness, courage, and forgiveness. And when your bucket is full, I take it away.

But.

But.

But.

You don't know what love is.

None of you do. You say love is physical. I send you pictures you beg for and all you say is; I love you.

I'm so terribly empty inside that I convince you to love me.

I eat everything in your buckets and when their empty I still want more. I am still hungry. Not for lust.

But to find true love.

Someone who can mix their bucket into mine and the taste will not be bitter nor sour.

But sweet, dainty, creamy.

Something I could never get tired of and as soon as I wake you in the morning to your face it immediately fills back up again.

And when the high goes away I can always fall back to your bucket.

But it seems, when the high goes away, your bucket turns grey and sour.

Is something wrong with me? With us?

You're all hungry for my flesh.

Not for my bucket.

And that's when it tips over, spilling, evaporating.

All of you say lies.

And when I leave.

It's my fault.

It's always been my fault.

ket.
nd sour.

Someone I Miss Gabriel Parker and I feel chaotic, romantic, and blind useless, selfish, and blind blind blind

in the distance I see a sign that reads:

"when you can't believe in anything believe in hope."

Believe

Valentyna Belofsky

and all that's left is what's in front of me searching for beauty to project value

to apply meaning searching the stars for an answer

believe in hope even after everything I can say there is a hope what's in front of me? It's the absence of thought that I still believe better to hold onto what you have because it's all you got believe and even in the deepest darkness if you easily sell I can see you're easily sold that I still hope that I still believe now I believe in the stories they told me I can say men become martyrs there is hope women revel in despair a light of belief so I must still believe Believe Believe Sunlight on the Horizon Dylan Morrow

Poker with Death

Jordan Koback

Grim

Katilyn Engle



I played poker with Death

His breath gliding across the chipped table and slightly bent cards Brought a deadly chill down my spine.

The sound of something sliding from one tooth to the other

As he gave a hollow laugh caused a bead of sweat

To slink down my temple.

I licked my lips to rid them of the chapped feeling

Death just laughed once again as the Dealer let another card fly

The cosmos dripped and splattered around us, screams of something and another kissed our ears when the King of Hearts flipped onto the velvet surface our arms laid upon.

My own Queen of Hearts smiled and winked as Death sucked his teeth and grabbed the edge of the table with something akin to anger.

But Death doesn't know anger.

He only knows Rot and Decay, his younger brothers who he helped deliver into the inky blackness our world floats in to this day.

The Dealer's eyes were like two galaxies.

They spun and twisted with curiosity and intrigue, emotions his blank face could never show when his mouth was sewn shut and his nose was nonexistent.

He let another card slide out from his wispy fingers, it flipped and showed a Jack of Hearts that sent my heart dancing to a drum beat.

Death's bony finger tapped against the table made of wood I couldn't identify, all I knew was the whispers it let float across my fingertips when I touched the knots and lines.

Death let out a rattling breath as the 10 of Hearts shined and glistened in my hand. The feeling of universes collapsing around me and the breath of Time and whatever other disgustingly benevolent beings could possibly be around me made my skin crawl.

Resisting the urge to scratch I smiled at the last card the dealer threw out. My smile moved to a slight chuckle, filling the empty void.

The Dealer and Death sent me a confused look when my chuckling evolved into full blown belly laugh that shook the foundations of everything that existed.

I wiped a tear and met their eyes.

"We have no idea how to play poker."

Bangtan Sonyeondan A.R.M.Y The Way of the Adorable Representative MC for Youth

Natasha Bauer

Music has been a massive inspiration for me and it has made a huge impact on my life and I listen to a lot of different artists but the main new artist that I listen to is Bangtan Sonyeondan, also called BTS, and they are such a good group, and I have listened to many different and other bands from they K-Pop genre as well. K-Pop is my life. I am a huge K-Pop Stan, which is a stalker fan, so I know everything about them and I am obsessed and I am a huge supporter of Bangtan Sonyeondan. And I believe that Bangtan should be acknowledged as well as many other K-Pop acts, not for their looks but for their music and the meanings behind their songs. Bangtan Sonyeondan has been a huge thing for America to witness. And if you look Beyond The Scene of K-Pop, you will be able to see the true meaning of the genre on a personal level like I have.

Bangtan Sonyeondan (commonly known as BTS) are a South Korean boy band that started in June of 2013. The members are Kim Taehyung, Kim Seok Jin, Min Yoongi, Jung Hoseok, Park Ji Min, Jeon Jeongguk, and finally Kim Namjoon. Like most K-pop acts, they have stage names which are, V, Jin, J-Hope, Jimin, Suga, Jungkook, and Rap Monster. They are signed to Big Hit Entertainment in Seoul, South Korea. The name BTS, or Bangtan Sonyeondan (DDDD in Hangul) means Bulletproof Boy Scouts in English.

The fanbase of BTS, called the BTS A.R.M.Y (Adorable Representative MC for Youth), are split four main branches based on where they are from. First off, the Korean branch is called the K-Diamonds. Next up is the International branch, which are called the I-Lovelies. Third in line are the Japanese branch, and they are called the J-Jewels, and finally there are the Chinese branch, which are called the C-uties. The reason behind the names for each branch is because BTS wanted to compliment ARMY's and they wanted to have each branch use a unique name, almost as unique as each branch is to the boys.

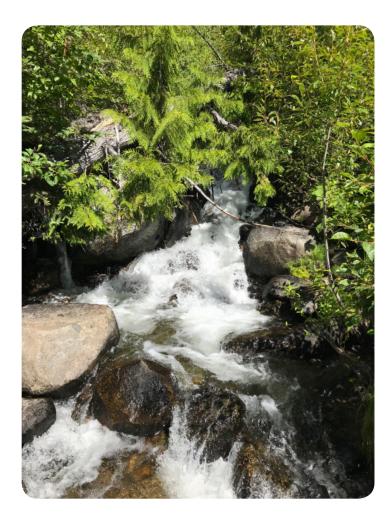
The ARMY fanbase is made up of many different regions of the world. Philippines, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Brazil, United States of America, Taiwan, and Mexico make up over 3 mil-

lion ARMY's altogether. We are the most supportive fanbase of K-Pop out there, most of the I-Lovelies I have met have spent their good and hard earned money just to see the boys in concert. But, us I-Lovelies are much more supportive. For example, the YouTube support for Bangtan Sonyeondan is 10,058,169 subscribers and counting and the most viewed and or listened song/music video would be for their song from 2017, "DNA". There are other vast numbers that make us a very supportive fanbase.

Being an Adorable Representative MC for Youth has really impacted my life in many ways, with being a part of this fandom, I have met many friends through being an ARMY, like my friend Chevenne, and I have found seven angels that have saved my life. My bias, which is basically a way in saying your favorite member, is Jeon Jeongguk, known as Jungkook by ARMYs and those who know BTS but do not particularly like them or K-Pop in general. And I have been an ARMY for two years now, and becoming an ARMY was absolutely a lifesaving and a life changing thing to do for me, however BTS were not the first act for me to get into the magical and unique world of Korean Pop music, the first act that introduced me to K-Pop was PSY, the artist who made the big hit "Gangnam Style" and that's when my K-Pop obsession came. The reason I enjoy not just BTS, as I enjoy many other acts, like for instance, EXO (whom are divided into two subgroups, EXO-M, who perform in Mandarin, and EXO-K who perform in Korean.) ShiNee, a band who lost a member to suicide at the beginning of 2018, and then of course, there is PSY. I enjoy Korean Pop music because it is a different and new culture compared to my own, and it is very interesting to me. I surprisingly can relate to BTS through their music, because most of their songs are about things that I can relate to, love, depression, anxiety, and many other themes. Being an ARMY or an Adorable Representative MC for Youth, that means that I am a representative of BTS and the Bangtan Sonyeondan world.

Mania Austin Ketzenberg





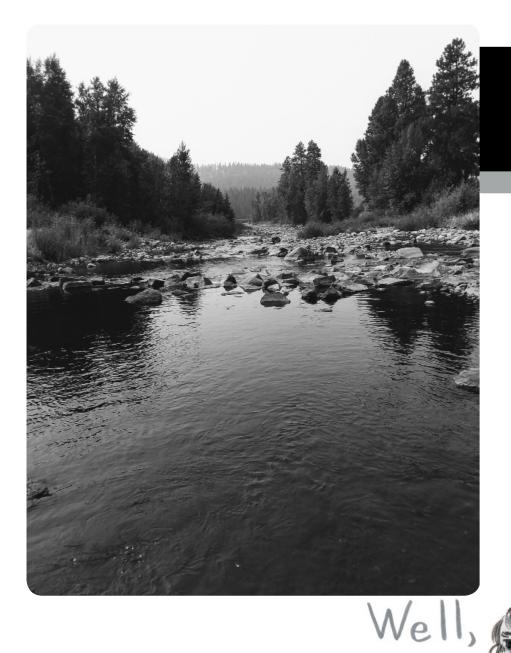
Alpine Creek Dylan Morrow

Untitled Felice Bello





Untitled
Felice Bello



Untitled Hunter Hughes

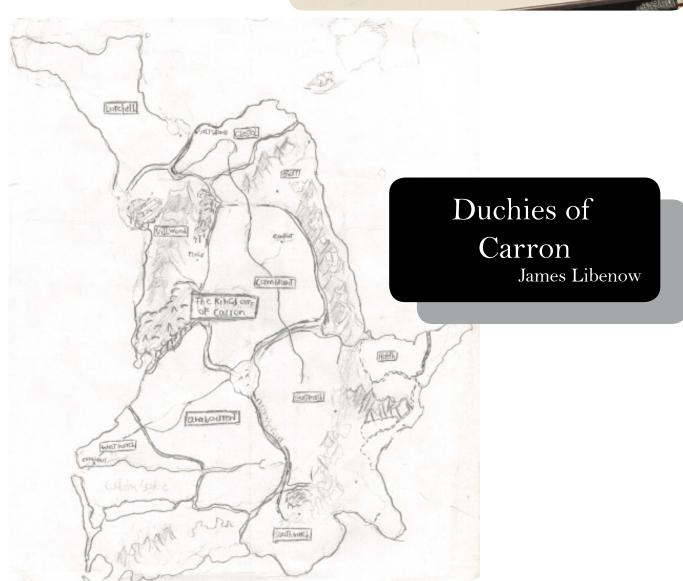
Here Tomorrow Shannon Nolan

I hope you're
here tomorrow 35

Orpheus The Great

Ruth Douglas





Flag
Stephen Szombathy

Lonely Valley Dylan Morrow



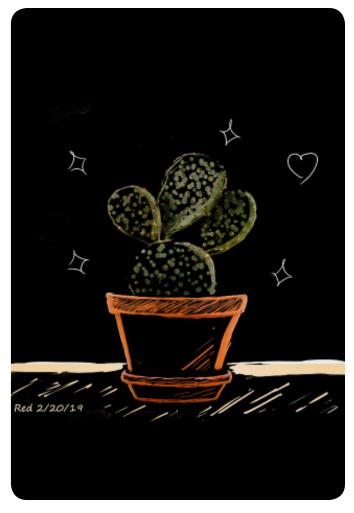




One Handsome Wet Boi

Olivia Anderson

Potted Ruth Douglas



Fairy
Shannon Nolan





The Ultimate
Collection
Ruth Douglas

THE 2019 RETROSPECT

