

Let

The

Bad

Challenges

Drug Addiction,

Chronic Illness,

Roll

AMERICA, AMERICA

RISKS AND REWARD
your dreams aren't just your o

It is

COMMON SENSE

You never stop growing.

POINT ARENA HIGH SCHOOL

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH

2012-13

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All poems written in California Poets In the Schools Workshop
guided by Poet Teacher Blake More
with Classroom Teacher Maichen Grossman
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and the Point Arena Schools

ANDRES ACEVES

THE ENCHANTED ELF CASTLE OF THE GREAT SOUTH WEST AIRLINES

Freedom is the ability to write a poem
Freedom is the buffalos running on the plains
Freedom isn't watching Kaddafi on each street corner TV billboard
Freedom is the hot air in my room rising to the peak of the ceiling and out the loft window
Freedom is an apple detaching from the branch with out being pulled off
Freedom is not welcome at school
Freedom lives in Kentucky
Freedom is created by the I phone
Freedom is a vegetarian
Freedom is lactose intolerant

JB

Blond hair
irritating Brendan,
defeating my writing thoughts
All of the suspense
building up in a movie
with sweat on your forehead
anxious until the commercial comes on
Dramatic, stuck up, self centered girls

AUTUMN ALEXANDER

COURAGE

Courage is strength for sticking up for your self
Courage is believing in your self
Courage is never regretting
Courage is moving forward in life
Courage is slowing down; saying no
Courage is trusting other people

I am....
Crazy
Loud
Hyper
Ambitious
Fun to be around
Spontaneous
Talkative

I am not....
Quiet
Bitchy
Calm
Neat
Lazy

TAYLOR BEAN

ONE DAY

How can they be so mean?
Like a fire, seems to be inviting
Until you get burnt
Even when they don't know someone
personally enough to judge
They do
How much different would things be
If we all became nice
Just giving a laugh or smile



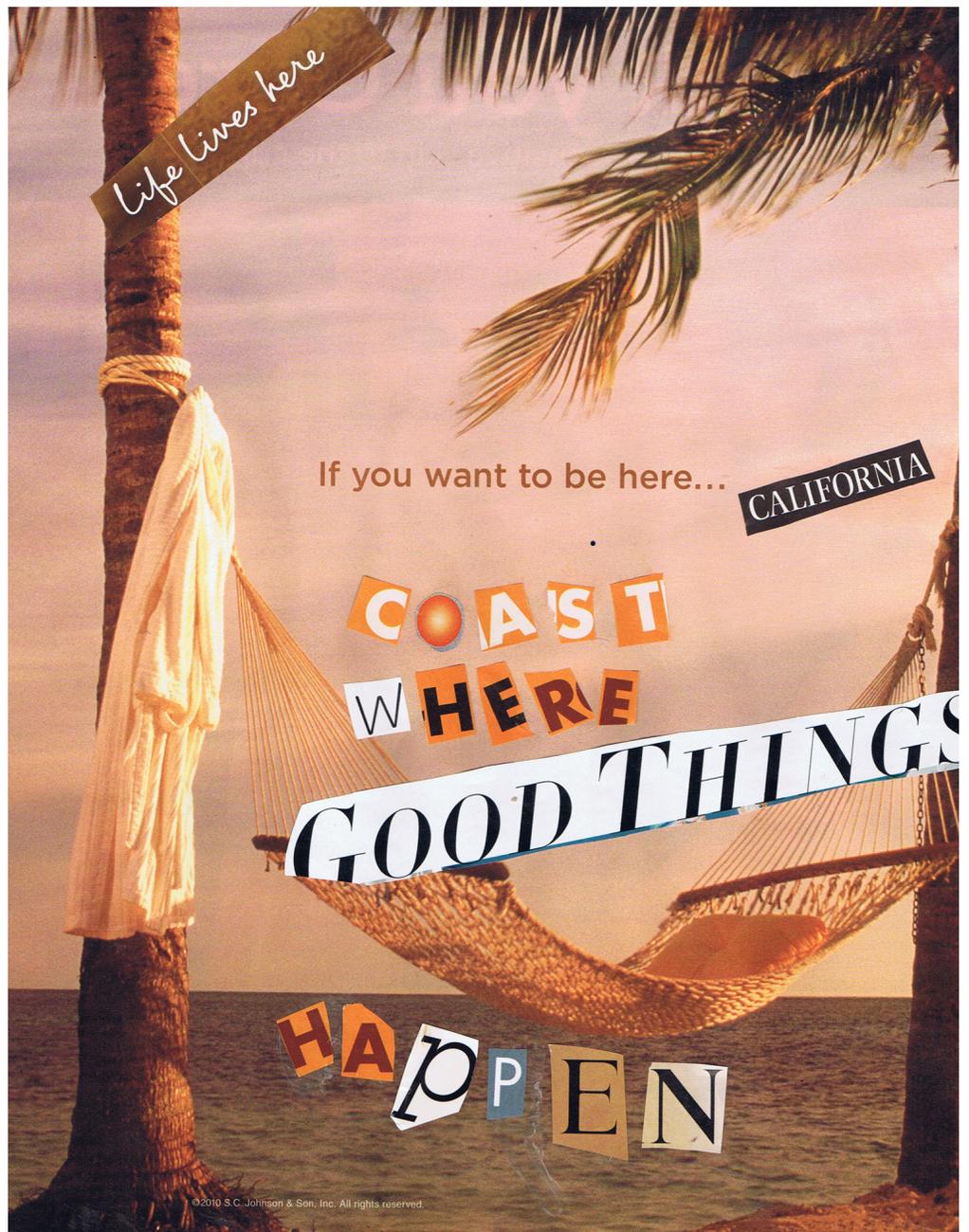
TENAYA BISHOP

FREEDOM

Freedom is being free
Freedom isn't being held down
Freedom is doing what you want to do
Freedom isn't having people tell you what to do
Freedom is having the right to speak your mind
Freedom isn't having to put tape over your mouth

I am...
Caring
Thoughtful
Impatient
Athletic
Random
Always wanting to have fun
Loving
Daring
Risky
Smiling always
I am me

I am not...
Selfish
Cocky
Rude
Hateful
Perfect



JESSICA BJORG

FREEDOM?

Freedom is love
Freedom isn't hate
Freedom is greatness
Freedom isn't unfairness
Freedom is beauty
Freedom isn't jail
Freedom isn't detention
Freedom is long walks on the beach with your love...
Freedom is listening to Taylor Swift songs...
Freedom is a bird singing in the morning...
Freedom is the courage to be you...



JOSE GONZALEZ



More pills
more pain

GARRET GUNHEIM

UGH...

Why is it so hard to wake up?
really guys
it's so messed up
turn on my teeth
and brush my light
I just said that wrong, right?

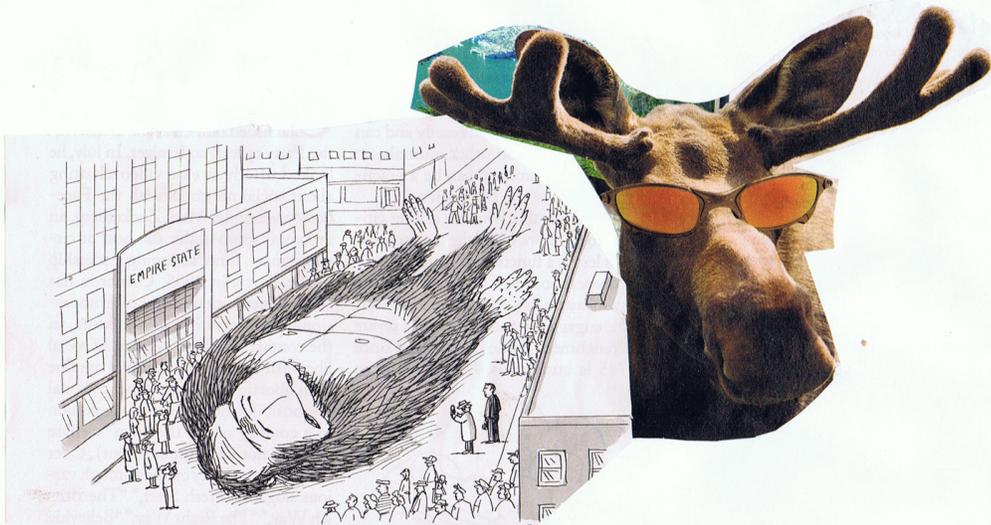
so hard
to wake up
so messed up
turn teeth
brush light
wrong, right?

wake up
messed up
teeth
brush
light

wake
teeth
wrong

Garret Gunheim
Grade 10, Point Arena High School
Maichen Grossman, Classroom Teacher
Blake More, Poet Teacher

TYLER HAY



JACOB MOYLES

I AM ME

I am...
the sweet scent of cherry blossoms
the gentle gale of wind
the tailwinds, helping your ship soar over water
the divine will beneath smoldering flames
the voice in the back of your head
pushing you onward
the soft melodies floating from the shanghai tea house
a guardian, malevolent will of Apophis,
Onbashira's storming gales and destructive waves
a reincarnation of the soft mewl of a kitten
I am your loyal, quiet jester
I am not...
bubbling hatred
the stinging rain in your eyes
the darkness dwelling in your heart and soul
seething anger waiting to strike like a tiger
the person leeching fro your soul, your entity
the annoying gnat in your face
the fattening hunger in your gut
I am not a 70s disco dancer
that's loud and enthusiastic
protective of myself

JOSE ORTEGA



JASON OSBORNE

COURAGE

Purple, round, and full of curiosity
My loyal canine mind pushing me forward
Past my wall of fear
And towards the strange noise outside
You can't have courage without fear
And I'm all about fear
But I overcome
Every 15 minutes of my life
Are full of different challenges
I am fear
I am courage
I am courage
The cowardly dog
Andres is my master

ODALYS RAMIREZ

I AM

I m the girl who loves extra cheese on her pizza
the girl who loves hot chocolate during a storm
I am the girl who wants to be a fireman
stopping fire
being a hero
I will not disappoint you
I will never think I am better
I am a regular person
seeing what's to come down the road
I will never be rude
I'm not perfect
I'm me

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

Freedom is choosing
Freedom isn't the U.S.A
Freedom is choosing right over wrong
Freedom isn't "free"
Freedom is going for it or believing
Freedom isn't money
Freedom is having the chance to talk
Freedom isn't the rich or poor
Freedom is knowing what comes
Freedom isn't paying tax
Freedom is having a healthy family
Freedom is living your life.....

TYLER RASMUSEN

I AM ME

I am me.
I am funny,
athletic, curious, smart,
energetic, creative,
happy, outrageous.
I am myself.
I am me.

AMERICA IS LIFE

America is life
a new born baby deer taking its first steps to freedom
America is freedom
freedom is a beautiful bald eagle soaring high on meth in the sky
America is beauty
beauty is the rolling hills with amber waves of grain
America is not shame
America is not hate
America is love
America is peace
America is the strength and will
to be who and what you want
America is life

JOSH RIBOLI

FREE DUMB

Freedom is bodacious
freedom isn't always fun
freedom is a magic trick that will keep entertaining you until the end
freedom isn't always adventurous
freedom is going the extra mile
freedom isn't always clean and fun
freedom is a apple pie cooling down on a window seal
freedom is a cute girl at the bar
freedom isn't always good music
freedom is a drug
freedom is a person on bathsalts eating your face
freedom is a strip club begging for your money

BRENDA SMITH



KEIRA SLOVER

THIS IS ME

I am beautiful
I am intelligent
I am special
And always glad
I'm not mean
I'm not scary
And every once in a while,
I get mad
But who can blame me,
For I was born the way I am
Nothing to change
Nothing to lose
Just living in the world
With who I am
And who I will always be
This is me!

THE COURAGE SHE HOLDS

Courage is feeling you can accomplish anything in the world
Even when you think there is absolutely no hope for you
Courage is moving forward in life
No matter what happens
The roughness of two individuals
Filled with hatred
Throwing punches and hurtful words
The slam of the repeatedly broken down door
Echoing off the white kitchen walls
Filling my ears and mind
With the sound of "so called love"
The scratchiness of screams for help
And begs for mercy
Courage is someone who can go through this
And still move forward each day
Asking themselves how can they make life better
For them and those they love
If this isn't courage... nothing is!

LIFE IN AMERICA

Freedom is having the right to talk
Freedom isn't being forced to walk
Freedom is doing what you want
Freedom isn't being stuck with a haunt
Freedom is feeling courageous and brave
Freedom isn't being stuck cutting the hay
Freedom is running, talking, singing, and dancing
Freedom isn't being locked up, suffering and dying
Freedom is feeling the wind
Freedom isn't having to hide from him
Freedom is having love in your heart
Freedom isn't having your name on that god damn chart*

(*"chart" refers to the military register)



JERAMY SONTONEY

FREEDOM

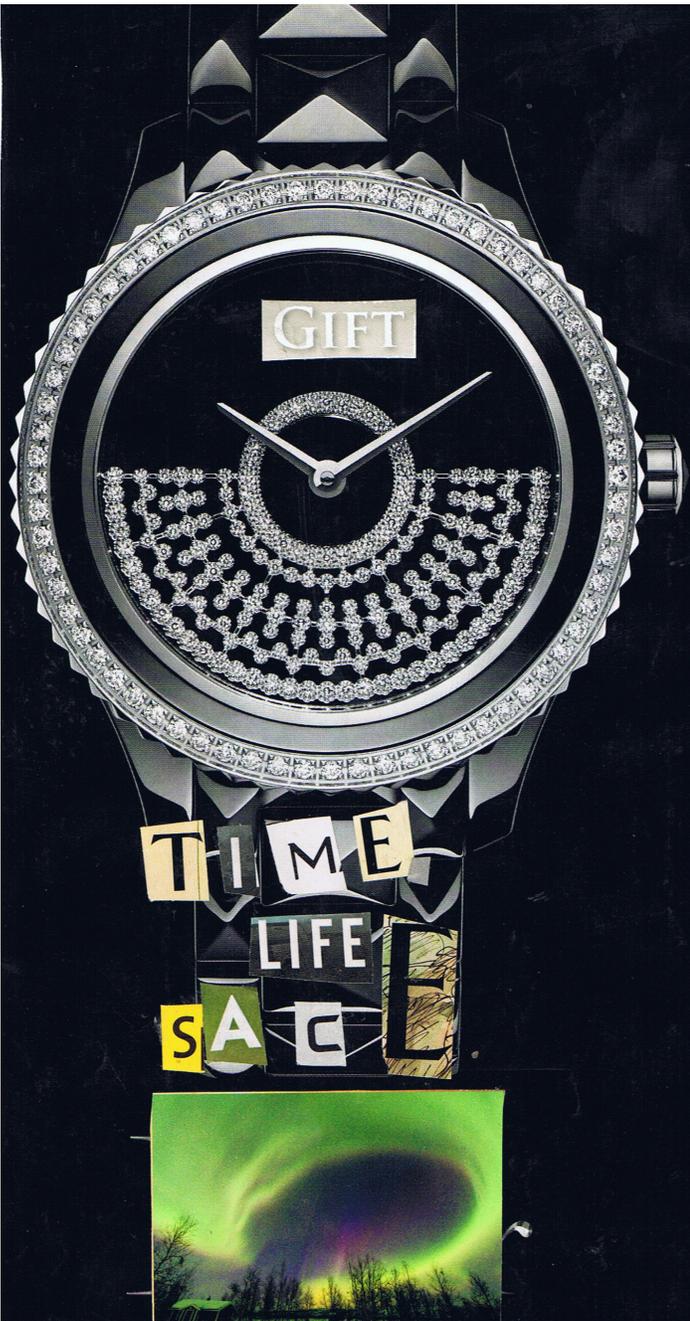
Freedom is a snake, being able to go where it wants.
Freedom is a bird, soaring high in the sky.
Freedom isn't being chained to the law.
Freedom isn't doing what we're told.
Freedom is expressing feelings.
Freedom isn't hiding our fears.
Freedom is everything, but nothing to me...

GROWING SEED

From the howls of intense labor,
The rattles of unwilling chains,
The coolness of the fresh air.
Head held high,
To the leader in the darkness.
Guiding the Light.

I AM... I AM NOT...

A Teddy bear... A fag
A punching bag... A taxi driver
A listen of all kinds... A retard
A responder... perfect
The morning and night... never shy
Fog of everyday.... Cowardly
A loyal friend... a trader
Endless hole of depression... I am not judgmental



SABRINA SUNDSTROM

DIFFERENT VIEWS

Freedom is the eagle soaring through the sky
Freedom isn't the animals being locked up in cages
Freedom is the fish jumping out of the water
Freedom isn't the animals being killed for no reason
Freedom is the wind going through your hair
Freedom isn't given to everyone
Freedom is better than wealth
Freedom isn't in jail
Freedom is the bracelets falling off naturally
Freedom isn't just a feeling
Freedom isn't the same to everyone

BRENDA VAZQUEZ

COURAGE

What is Courage?
Courage is being brave.
Showing emotions and
Expressions.
Being a person
Who isn't
Afraid of
Taking a
Challenge in
Succeeding.
Being admired.
Courage isn't
Always about
Who is stronger.
It's about
Taking challenges
And overcoming
Obstacles in
Life.



MARCO VILLAVAZO

SHADOWS OF COURAGE

Courage to grow as a community we need to get up
and stand up for our rights
those pigs want
to step all over us
but as long as we have hope
we will not let them
I see black and white shadows
Picking on eachother
As a little Mexican boy
I jump up like a bean
Stand up to the lighter shadows
Become allies with the darker ones
And beat the livivng shit out of lighter ones
Because their trying to creep behind me

KYLA WILSON

YOU'RE JUST AS LONELY

I can hear them
whispering about my isolation
When they see me sitting alone
they purr
They think to themselves
"Thank god it's not me."

There is no expression on my face
but on he inside
I smile and laugh
You see, little do they know
they are much lonelier than I
I can hear how tired they are when they talk
I can see frustration in every move
so scared to e alone...
to be separate

I can see
through their facades and grins
like they just washed with Windex
Lives ruled by fear
People acting like clones
I am not lonely
I am powerful
I am myself
Soon I will no longer sit in isolation
I will never feel regret for these times
Talk all you want now
I know you are fed up too
but I fought the fear
and I won

ONE WITH THE WAVES

I wear a green gem necklace of sadness and tears.
Look out at the ocean I see beauty and depression.
I am bearing a smile as drift off in a daydream.
Poseidon, are you sad?
He cries. He screams. He hurts.
The waves are moving like satin bed sheets
colliding, collapsing entwining.
There is something
dreadful, beautiful, destructive
pulling me in.
Why?
I wake back to reality
as bitter cold wind caresses my hair.
Look past my façade, my smile.
Look into my eyes,
I am one with the waves,
they scream, cry, and rage for me,
but me myself I bear a smile.

I was born baffled and have trusted
my bafflement more than my
certainties.



LISTEN

SAVE YOUR WISHES

NO'T

Easily Led

Leave

a



footprint

CESAR ZAMUDIO

MY THOUGHTS

freedom is everything positive
freedom isn't everything negative
freedom is having a smile on your face
freedom isn't doing something you don't want to do
freedom is doing what you want to do
freedom isn't being trapped at home
freedom is to feel free
freedom isn't being lied to by the government
freedom is having a choice in life
freedom isn't being told what to do
freedom is everywhere
freedom isn't everywhere

BLANK

Trying to write a poem
don't know how to start it
drawing lines across the paper
people giving me examples to start
nothing going through my head
blank

trying to write a poem
don't know how to start it
drawing lines

nothing
going through my head
blank

poems, examples, blank

LOST

Lost in an art gallery
I'm thinking
but I'm really stuck
not remembering where I am
last thing I remember
was my grandma knitting a blanket
it's dark
nowhere to run
I'm here yelling
it is my grandpa

