



ISOLATION

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Schaumburg High School Literary Magazine 2021

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MAN'S GREATEST ACTIONS ARE PERFORMED IN MINOR STRUGGLES. LIFE, MISFORTUNE, ISOLATION,
ABANDONMENT AND POVERTY ARE BATTLEFIELDS WHICH HAVE THEIR HEROES - OBSCURE HEROES WHO
ARE AT TIMES GREATER THAN ILLUSTRIOUS HEROES.

VICTOR HUGO



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WHEN I FIRST OPEN MY EYES UPON THE MORNING MEADOWS

AND LOOK OUT UPON THE BEAUTIFUL WORLD,

I THANK GOD I AM ALIVE.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON



Sadness is a Sheet of Paper
By Yulissa Arroyo

Sadness is very painful,
It's like walking as a sheet of paper,
All around you are spikes and knives,
Ripping you, tearing you apart,
People say to never give up,
The truth is you've been strong too long.

Being strong is not a bad thing,
The thing is not knowing when you need a break,
Being broken over and over and over is a bad thing,
You don't take time for yourself the sadness devours you whole,
It's like a shark that keeps coming for more, but what more
Can you give.

Being a sheet of paper doesn't only bring you sadness,
Being a sheet of paper doesn't only bring you pain,
It can also bring opportunities, because no matter how broken you are,
You can still be fixed,
You will not be as good as before like that new sheet,
But you can become a different paper,
With the small piece that hasn't been ripped apart.

Waking Up
By Maya Bizon

The lights hit me; I felt disoriented
I couldn't see clearly as if everything was cloudy
All I could hear is my alarm clock whining at me
I couldn't comprehend what was happening

My dream became faint
I could hear my door opening like a squeaky mouse,
I could hear my mom yell
That's when I finally realized
I was being woken up for school



Dreams are Just a Different Reality
By Keshawn Annison

Alone at night shadows dancing around the room
Something moves in the room so you get a broom
You hear a bump the hall
Then hear a fall
You go to the stairs and see a dark figure at the bottom
The figure stands up
Then falls and lands on its rump
The door in the front opens and a tall man with a top hat comes in
The man looks like a tree wearing a suit
He goes to the shadow and hits it with his boot
The he drags the Shadow out the door
It makes a creaking sound as it gets dragged along the floor
You hear a voice call your name
Then you wake up and realize it was all a dream
And you go eat a pancake full of cream





Fear of Oceans
By Emily Carlos

The big sound of the crashing waves
I had to let go of my fear and be brave.
The loud waves were as loud as a lion's roar,
But the waves were so big, that they came all the way to shore.
The oceans floor,
Is creepy, because there are many more creatures left to explore.
I'm laying down on the soft sand,
Where no ocean creature could reach this land.

The crashing waves are loud,
But it is relieving to hear the sound.
I am scared to go into the ocean,
Because I feel like I would drown.
What if a huge shark appears,
And tries to come near.
The dark blue deep ocean is scary and is my fear,
And I would fear to die here.

The Story of My Life
By Linnea Carlson

I was running from him like a black panther
The crow, as dark as his soul coming after me
Along with all of his followers, an army
From where my two halves once split

My dove, the heavens sent down an angel
To help me, to guide me through life
Through huge tidal waves, and over speed bumps
Going smoothly over a freshly paved road

Her sweet little hummingbird, so bright and precious
Working hard, Gathering a group of cardinals at her side...
The Doves and her cardinals fight for the dove and her hummingbird,
They don't peck their beaks, or flap their wings as they silently glide to victory



IN ISOLATION I RUTHLESSLY PLOW THE DEEP SILENCES, SEEKING MY OPPORTUNITIES LIKE A MINER
SEEKING VEINS OF TREASURES. IN WHAT SHALLOW GLIMMERING SPACE SHALL I FIND WHAT
GLIMMERING GLORY?

JAMAICA KINCAID

A New Land
By Dylan Fuschi

To seize the day we must
Put into each others trust
Today is the day we look forward
And we shall move to new land that is undiscovered

Finally we have made it here
I can see the shore and the pier
A new life has begun
And finally the search is done

But easy it was not
On that boat we felt like we were gonna rot
We traveled for so long
But finally we found the place where we belong

Harmony
By Hugo Garcia

The harmony of music is soothing
It can be created with heart
It can draw attention to people
Who don't know where to start

Music is like poetry
But it adds more details and sounds
It can be subtle or obnoxious
But either way, it can gather people around





Grandpa

By Kaelyn Karikitan

Far from home, farther than ever
I miss you, but you're no longer here.
Oh, the many adventures we take to tag along with you
The watching, the fishing, the eating, the driving
Those many adventures are what make me miss you
Missing you is a healing, missing you is an everyday feeling
I'm sorry we argued,
Just know I will always love you

The Fight
By Christian Harris

Alone I stood in the night



With a single light,
White and bright
As I walked along the street
I could hear the pitter-patter of feet

Shadows emerged from the darkness,
Ready to fight nonetheless
So I got in my stance
And was ready to dance
For all hell was about to break loose

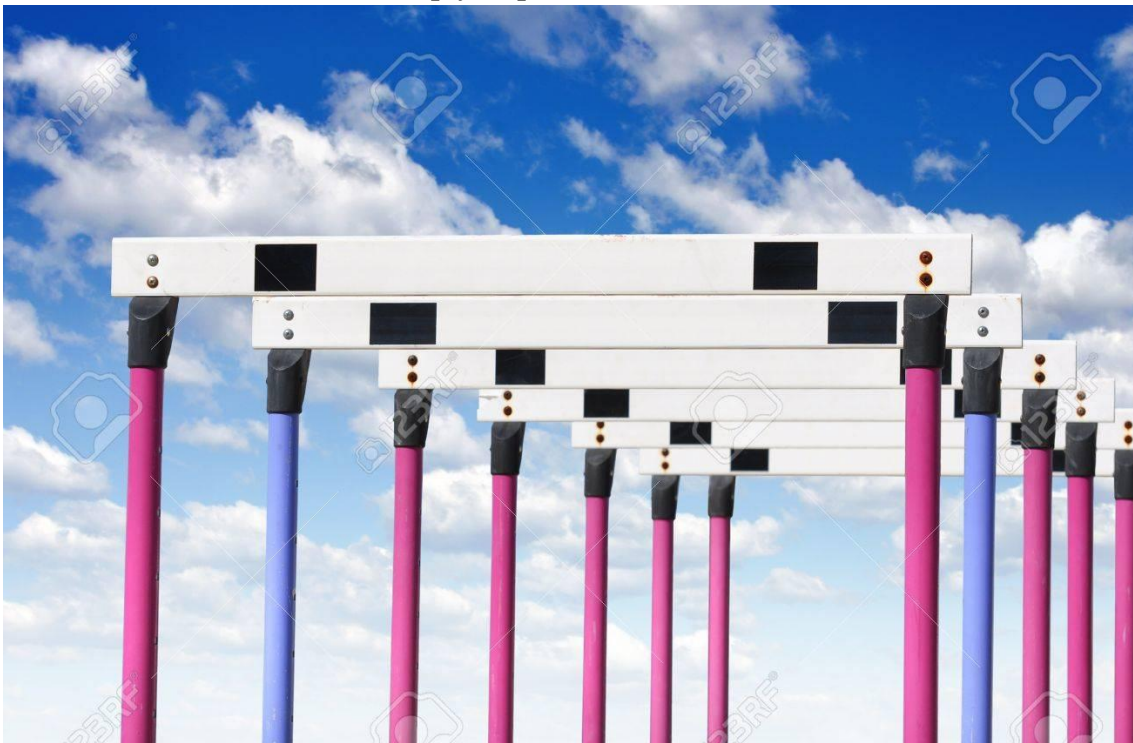
Punches were flying everywhere
Yes they were; fists appeared as blurs
To blink I did not dare
But when I looked up the Fhurer
Was standing there

Obstacles
By Smit Modi

You rise, you run, you fall,
But you know you have to stand after all.
Your hurdles are the wolves,
Of which you have to be a hungry bear.

Because you can't just disappear.
You have to fight,
To make every wrong right.

Keep in mind,
Every hurdle you hit,
Will help you prevent the next one.





Last
By Adrian Mol

I walk into the forest alone.
I trudge through the trees, dying entering fall.
All I feel is the wind being blown.
When I look in the distance all is gone, nothing but a wall.

I started staring and all became small.
When I turn, all is no more.
I just stand on the floor.
I'm still alone but was only at home.

Fear

By Eddie Montes

What is Fear? Can you overcome it?

Yes, Fear Is like Ocean Waves

It can be big or small, it all depends on one's mentality

Fear can lock you up in a dark room

Full of anxiety and gloom

Fear, Fear, Fear how strange it can be

Fear can affect focus and mentality

However fear can be beaten

It takes courage and bravery to break out of the dark room

Once you break out the room opportunity will appear

You just have to take the chance when it is near

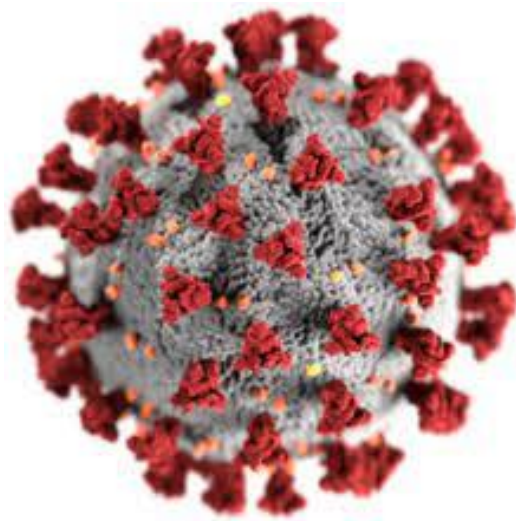
Once you take that chance

Your mentality will improve

So yes, you can overcome fear

SOLITUDE, ISOLATION, ARE PAINFUL THINGS AND BEYOND HUMAN ENDURANCE.

JULES VERNE



Locked on a Limit
by Kacper Myszkal

One time a while ago, came a lockdown for a virus
they said it was only going to last for 2 weeks,
now it's been over a year
and we're still wearing masks everywhere we go,
to school, to work and to the store.
We finally figured out virtual school.
Some are extremely scared while there's other that believe it isn't real.
Before any of this happened we all felt hopeless and scared,
we didn't know what to do except for stay at home and buy groceries only when
necessary,
for some reason toilet paper was sold out everywhere
but as we get settled to this and it's calming down,
soon this movie will end and we will be back to normal.

Life Through Fear's Eyes
By Nico Navarrete

You're feeling alone inside and out and want to cry and shout
You've been isolated for so long you just want to let your anger out
You hate your mask, you hate the distancing, and everyone says it will go away soon
This has been driving you crazy for almost a year and you just want to get out of here
You try to make yourself calm but you feel like a ticking time bomb about to explode

You feel not at rest as coronavirus has made your life a mess
You say that tomorrow is a new day but you stress and stress
You fight against COVID but your punches have no impact
You feel as if you are the only person that is attacked

But you are not alone and many people are going through this too
Everyone will come over this and we will all break through
We all need to do our part and we can make a difference if we work together
If we all follow the rules and do what's right, we will find the light in the darkness of these times



The Fear
By Joseph Rivera

Have you ever felt like nobody is there
Where there is nothing but scare
And the one thing you won't forget
The one thing that scares you to even sleep
Since that one day you can't sleep the same
That's your fear
As where most things close in on you every day
You're not the only one

You feel trapped in a hole
Your days are dark and rainy
You feel like nobody is with you at any time
That you can't escape
You feel someone behind you
You feel watched
Feel the pain running through your body
That is fear

Baseball School
By Frankie Urso-Russo

If school were more like baseball
We'd only have to play
We'd hangout in the sunshine
and run around all day

We wouldn't have to study
We'd practice and we'd train
And best of all they'd cancel
Whenever there is rain

Every now and then someone pouts
And maybe some cries and shouts
But either way it doesn't matter
Cause three strikes you're out

Baseball
By Colin Adams

Playing baseball
All summer and all fall
Running the base
And the struggles we embrace

Hitting the ball to the mall
Sliding into the base
Is enough for your memory to erase
When you're playing baseball

Hit the ball hard
And run around the yard
Sliding into the dust
Really is a must



Fear is Everywhere
By Josh Vook

Fear is like oxygen
No one can see it
No one can touch it
But it is everywhere in society

Fear lies in every humans soul
You must overcome your fears
It really does take a toll
Fear will stick with you over the years

My Fear of the Future
By Kaileen Alimorong

Fear follows me,
Fear stalks me,
Fear controls my mind,
Fear of the unknown,
The isolation, loneliness.

In these cruel times,
Fear surrounds me,
Fear sleeps with me.

I feel lonely,
I sometimes feel isolated,
In this never ending cycle.

There are times,
When I feel as though
No one truly knows,
What I feel.

I know for sure,
Fear can be stopped,
When the opportunity is near,
Will that statement be held true,
In the future?

I'm Trapped
By Lesihlianis Cancel-Roman

I'm trapped, there's nowhere to go. My mind is set
On consistent thoughts.
Endless voices, dark and alone kind of like an astronaut.
These voices hit harder at night. Hits so hard I lose my appetite.

They just talk, over and over again, makes it hard to concentrate,
My head starts throbbing, healing at slow rates.
I'm failing school, my anxiety is the highest it's ever been,
It feels like the worlds simply crashing in.

There's hate on myself, i don't know why
Sometimes i would feel as if i wished i could die
No im not saying im gonna go kill myself
But the feeling okay i wish i had, is way too high on the bookshelf.

I wanna be happy, you know being able to sleep the whole night,
But it's like I'm at the top of a skyscraper..and I'm scared of heights.
I wanna be okay, i don't wanna hide my pain,
But man, these thoughts are running in and out of my brain.

-con't-

I don't wanna sound like the depressed girl, always sad and looking for attention,
But this is why its important to learn about suicide prevention.
The feelings are real man, really real. The voices are so loud,
It's almost like a game show, by yourself, in front of a huge crowd.

People always say, "just go talk to someone"
Like bro, I don't even trust my loved ones.
There's one that can help with this, at least that's how i feel,
My stomach always feels like she's doing cartwheels.

No, this isn't just a poem, its honestly how i feel,
Those saying i am being overdramatic,
How about you come take the wheel?
No, this isn't just a poem, it's how i feel,
I'm trying and trying and trying to just heal.

Healing takes time, patience,
I Don't have that, it's like being locked in the basement.
I wanna become better, you know be happy,
Mom, I'm sorry , I'm always so bratty.

But i think i'm done for today, i'm getting too comfortable letting out how i feel,
My stomachs started to do those cartwheels.
I hope yall dont get alarmed by this,
Just think of it as an awakening kiss.

Pick

By Lukas Gonda

Humans usually take two roads when a stepback happens in their lives
they either cry like a baby or they overcome it like a superhero and move on in
their lives

Two roads. Which one will you choose: the easy way or the hard way
make sure it is the right one don't regret your decision

Lonely

By Julissa Hernandez

I sit on my bed like a lonely dog,
Looking at the dark and rainy sky.
I wonder if I am the only one that ever feels like this,
"I can't be" I tell myself.
I sit and wonder why me?
Why am I so lonely.
I have nothing to lose anymore,
Except myself, and that's already gone.

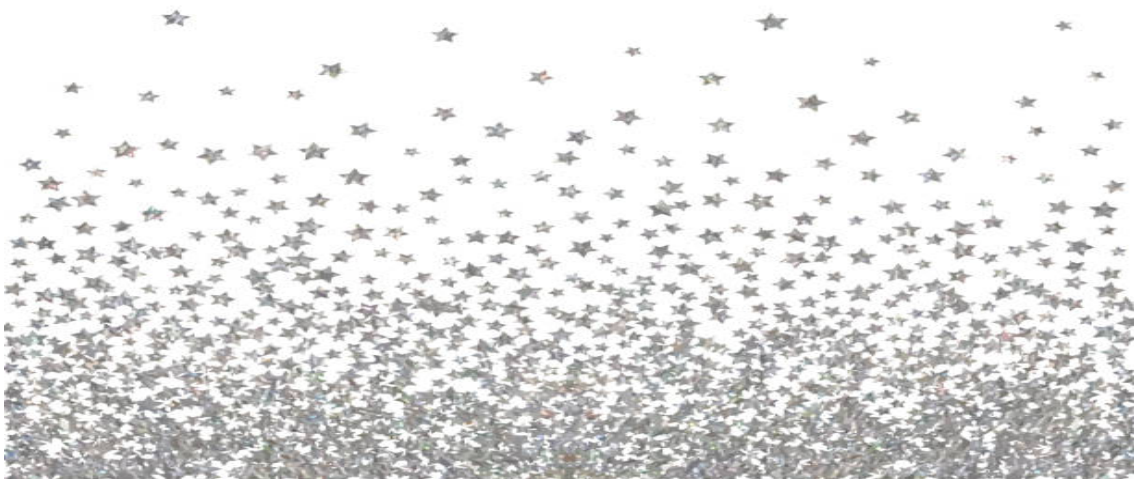
COVID Stars
By Alexis Kotecki

Ohh the stars so bright
They reach the ultimate height
Twinkling so bright
But no one feels the light

COVID hits, the world goes dim
No one can hit the gym
Alone the people walk
Like with masks they talk

No restaurants open in site
All we can do is bike
10 months past
And COVID still lasts

Starting a vaccine is like ending world war 3
Soon to be free
The stars soon to rise
The world opens up its eyes



OUR STORY IS NEVER WRITTEN IN ISOLATION. WE DO NOT ACT IN A ONE-MAN PLAY. WE CAN DO
NOTHING THAT DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PEOPLE, NO MATTER HOW LOUDLY WE SAY, "IT'S MY OWN
BUSINESS.

MADELEINE L'ENGLE

Finding the Light in the Night
By Maya Marelonis

I sat there on the rooftop
As i tried to block out every single thought,
time kept passing by as i fought and fought.
The moonlight glistened through the night,
trying so hard to find the light.

I held my breath and closed my eyes
Blocking out all the vile lies
Looking down, I saw all of the passing cars,
Looking up, withheld the beauty, a sky was filled with stars.

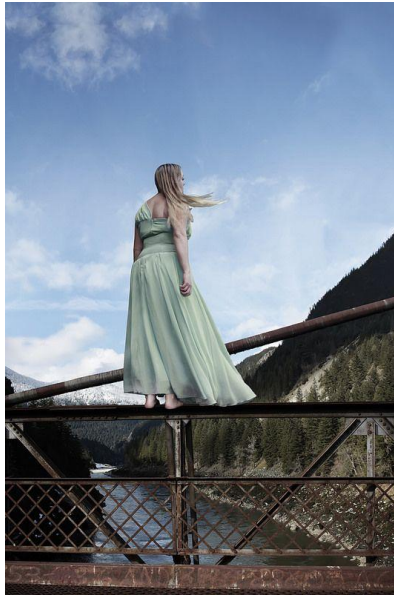
COVID-19
By Angel Monaco

Roses are red
Violets are blue
I hate COVID
How about you

The symptoms are like a box of chocolate
You never know what you're gonna get
It's been a year
COVID is my biggest fear

When you go out you wear a mask
If you don't COVID will Attack
Just ask my home boi Jack
Quarantine for 2 weeks
A cure we shall seek





Lost in the Wind
By Crystal Munoz

I stand over the ledge
My heart is beating fast
My breaths are short
I want to jump but I can't

I close my eyes
Take deep breaths
I jump before thinking
Feel the wind through my hair
And I have never felt so free

Flowers Oh So Yellow
By Joshua Pashile

Here I am in the meadow
Playing with flowers oh so yellow
Plucking petals oh so fine
Thinking of things that aren't mine
This boy for instance
How gorgeous his hair
And his big brown eyes with a fiery flare
With his voice so smooth and deep
Yet light, you would use it to fall asleep
He had everything there
The looks, the talent
And his personality just fits in my pallet
And i would date him, yes,
He's the right one for me
But i don't really like him
I don't wanna be lonely
My peers and family are ahead in their time
I don't wanna be left behind
And i don't have friends
At Least ones that matter
I feel alone and isolated
Always in my own zone, where i only matter
Love doesn't exist in my world
Why you may ask
Because of what i've learned
Love is used in an incorrect way
It's not for me, i don't need it anyway
Yet i want the boy don't know what for
He doesn't like my kind, it's guys he's looking for
So i'll remain lonely for now
It hurts that i care though
But i'm still playing with flowers oh so yellow



Room
By Mark Stech

I'm alone in a room
Alone, in a Rubix Cube
Shapes and colors
Smells scrambled through air
Nothing to do
my room is a square

Nothing more
Nothing less
I'm talking to people
Who I've never met
The colors look fun
So many shapes and sizes
My mood is numb
The skies have disguises

I'm alone in a room





Life Under Lockdown
By Liam Trinidad

Things in life have changed
When the pandemic has struck,
And even with the rules I try to follow
I still sometimes I hope for luck
That I won't be caught by the virus
So that my life won't really suck.

Though I say that I will be more productive,
I sometimes don't keep my word true.
And I end up being a couch potato
Not knowing what to do.
But I try to get up and start
Some things that can be done too.

I try to do things that are more productive,
Such as sweeping the floors the dirt has hit
Or complete any homework assigned to me
Schools may want me to finish and submit.
Life under lockdown can be hard,
But I know I can make the most out of it

"THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY."

MAHATMA GANDHI