

THE SWEET SIXTEEN ISSUE

FIVE

WELCOME TO THE PARTY!



THE MAGAZINE OF THE SEND STREET PROJECT

#16
2014



Smart Partners is the after-school mentoring program of The 52nd Street Project.
Fivey is the program's annual magazine.

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FROM THE EDITORS' DESKS

It was 1998, but it seems like just yesterday that The 52nd Street Project's Fivey was born. It was a simple but brilliant idea: what if the Project kids could have their own annual magazine written by, for, and about themselves? Since then, Fivey has been a place for kids to publish the compelling writing, photographs, and drawings created between their coming-up-taller moments onstage. Fivey has grown up showcasing the artistry of the time spent within the supportive mentoring relationships unique to the Project, during after-school hangouts in the Clubhouse, and Smart Partners meetings all over the Big Apple. And now, Fivey is celebrating his 16th issue! Fivey is, in fact, the biggest he has ever been—there are 48 pages chock-full of not only the expected smart, zany, hilarious, dark, and thoughtful stuff the Project kids always deliver, but also some sentimental pieces on cherished years and milestone moments the kids have experienced here. Three Smart Partner pairs who have written for Fivey for many of its years are graduating the program. Melissa Rebolledo and her Smart Partner Joanna Parson proffer the finale of their "Playlist" series. We'll miss their music. Alvin Garcia and his mentor Graeme Gillis share a novella that highlights their most famous meals, co-chef'ed in the Clubhouse kitchen. We're sad but proud to share their last supper. And Samantha Caldona and her mentor Laura Shortt celebrate their favorite cafes in NYC. We wish them continued café reunions during Samantha's return visits during her college breaks. Congratulations to these graduates, thanks to all the Fivey contributors, and a happy sweet 16, Fivey!



A baby picture of Fivey at age 1.



JOHN SHEEHY

— Liz Bell

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THE GREAT POSTCARD POETRY BRIDGE FROM New York TO TEXAS AND BACK AGAIN!

In March of 2014, Nathaly Trinidad's adult Smart Partner Julie Sharbutt got an acting gig in the great state of Texas. Rather than just text or e-mail each other, the pair decided to do a long-distance poetry exchange the old-fashioned way: through postcards! Here is the fruit of their correspondence.



Nathalyyyy!!!

March 6, 2014

Howdy Bean! Greetings from Texas! I've only been here a few days but I can tell you the people are friendly, there are lots of cowboy hats, and pizza is not as good. I miss you and hope you're doing well! Here's some poetry to start off:

When I arrived in Texas it was 36 degrees
I left NY for this?? Naw, girl, please.
But the people are nice, I'm amending my frown,
And word on the street's there's a rodeo in town! ♡ Julie

March 10, 2014

Julieeee!!!

I'm glad you like Texas. Have fun over there.
Try new foods and adventures we can't do here.
Now here's some poetry:

You may have heard
We lost an hour.
I feel like a dying flower.
It's been 55 degrees
And I've barely had any sleep.

♡ Nathaly



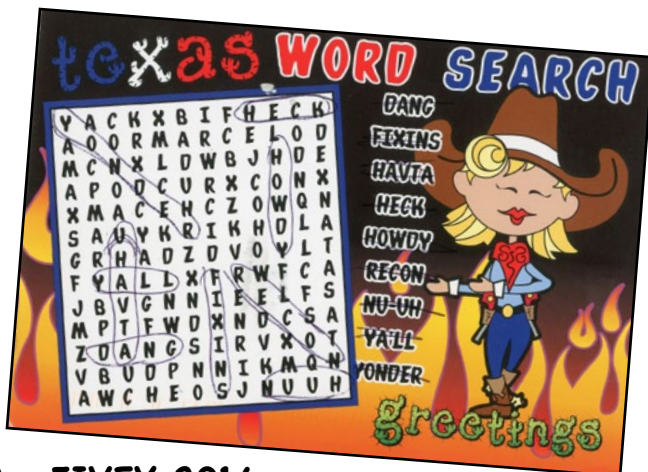
Howdy Bean,

March 20, 2014

I'm on a short break during rehearsals and I'm sitting in a pretty park, right in front of the San Jacinto River. Hope things are good in NYC! Here's a poem:

The sun's out in Texas! I'm getting a tan!
By the San Jacinto River, best that I can.
'Cause right now the skin tone of this poor city girl,
Is pale and translucent, like mother-of-pearl.
Uh oh, the director is calling me back to the mines.
Fingers crossed I remember all of my lines.

♡ Julie



March 26, 2014



Hey Julie,

Everything is good. Here I saw "Divergent." It was amazing. I hope you thought so too. Here's a poem:

In NYC there is barely any sun.
But there's still lots of things you can do for fun.
I saw "Divergent." It was amazing.
The movie got such wonderful ratings.

♥ Nathaly

March 27, 2014

Nathalyyyyy!

Hope you're feeling better and that NYC's warming up! The show's going well down here, though my muscles are super sore 'cause I have to wear high heels all day. Ah, well. Okay, poetry:

So I finally saw "Divergent" and I have no remorse!
I think we're both "dauntless," like, right?

Yeah. Of course.

That gal, she was tough, and that dude was so cute!
OK, now back to rehearsal with a handful of snack fruit.

♥ Julie



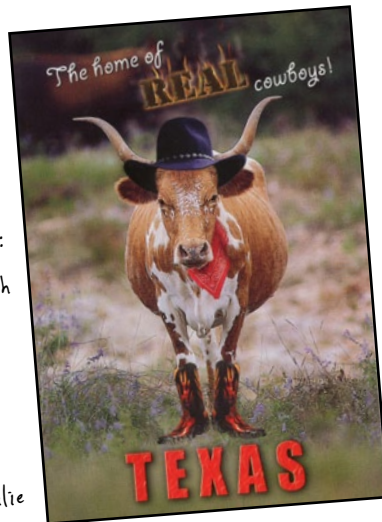
April 8, 2014

Hey Bean!

I hope you're well! Hope school's good and that you're feeling better. We're about to open our show here! So here's the poetry:

Bean, after many rehearsals, both night and day
Tomorrow night I open my play!
I'm really excited this day's finally come,
And in less than 3 weeks I'll be back home!

♥ Julie



Hey Julie,

April 13, 2014

I'm feeling well and thank you for asking.
I'm happy you're almost coming home. Here's some poetry:

I'm happy for you to be in a play.
Have fun and break a leg.
I'll be waiting for you till you get home.

♥ Nathaly

April 27, 2014



Dear Bean,

Howdy girl! In less than 2 weeks I'll be back in NYC!! So alas this shall be my last postcard from the cattle state (I don't know if Texas is really the cattle state). So here is a poem:

Farewell to thee Texas, you who have led
This NYC girl to eat steaks as big as her head.
Goodbye bluebonnets and hill country,
Where your cows all roam-a,
I'm going back to New York to take Nathaly to MOMA.

♥ Julie.

Laura and Sam's Favorite Cafe Reviews

By Samantha Caldonia and Laura Shortt

PHOTOS BY SAM AND LAURA



Bis. Co. Latte Handmade Biscotti
6667 10th Avenue



This café has been open for 6 years. The reason this little café was created was because the owner and his wife didn't like the coffee around Hell's Kitchen so they decided to create their own! The wife, who is a baker, created the biscotti part of this coffee shop. Biscotto is a cookie that is baked twice so it becomes hard. It is generally meant to be dunked in wine in Italy but we use coffee

One of our favorite things to do as Smart Partners is to go out for tea and try different little cafés in the neighborhood.

We've been going to this one for 5 years and we must say this is our favorite of them all.

and hot teas here in America. The traditional biscotti flavor is almond but *Bis. Co. Latte Café* goes above and beyond with their flavors including rose, lavender, cotton candy, green tea, vanilla pudding, chocolate mint and much more! We liked biscotti before we went there and then afterward we fell in love with it! Along with the biscotti, they have a huge tea selection. They also import their coffee from Italy and they are VERY proud of the fact their coffee is imported. They also serve soups, baked goods, and every fall they have a bunch of pumpkin flavored food and drinks! Everything is also homemade, which makes it ten times better!

The general atmosphere is a calm, relaxing setting. They serve you at your table and the prices are pretty good. They have a 5 sampler deal where you can purchase 5 pieces of biscotti for \$4.95. It's usually \$1.25 a piece. It's also very convenient for Smart Partner meetings. It is just an all-around good café.

Amy's Bread
672 9th avenue

Amy's Bread has been in Hell's Kitchen for 21 years and we've gone there a few times. It was once a fish market before it was turned into a bakery. Everything is homemade and it's mainly known for their loaves of bread and desserts. They do sell other items such as teas and cakes and sandwiches,





Samantha strikes a pose in front of Amy's Bread.

but we prefer the biscuits. They sell plain or cheddar biscuits. They sell tea and hot chocolate. Their hot chocolate is homemade and it's very rich in flavor. They have huge pieces of cake and cookies, which is good, 'cause the more the better! They bake all their goods on site and the entire place has a nice bread-like aroma. It can be crowded at times because it is a very well known company that also has two other sites in the city. It's definitely more expensive than Bis. Co. Latte. The cookies are \$2.50 and the slices of cake are \$4.95.

Cupcake Café 545 9th avenue

We know *Cupcake Café* has been in Hell's Kitchen for a long time, but we don't know for how long. They switched locations in the early 2000's but still stayed within the Hell's Kitchen area. It's across the street from Port Authority and it's a long walk from the Project, but for a special occasion it's worth it. They are mainly known for their cakes, which are decorated with flowers. Each cupcake and cake has its own flower design. Each flower has its own unique shape and no two flowers are alike. They have various flavors such as walnut, vanilla, chocolate, and many more. The cake itself has various

flavors along with the frosting, which is buttercream. The frosting comes in flavors such as maple, orange, lemon, mocha, and much more. The atmosphere has a nice and relaxed vibe. It is kind of crammed together but we haven't been there when it's too crowded. The cupcakes are only \$3 and it is a bigger cupcake than *Magnolia Bakery* and the flower designs are really nice. You can also take a decorating class to learn how to do pretty flowers with the icing.

These are the 3 main places we've been going to over the course of our 6 years as Smart Partners. We prefer Bis. Co. Latte out of the 3 but nonetheless we like them all. ⑤



How to Make an Apron

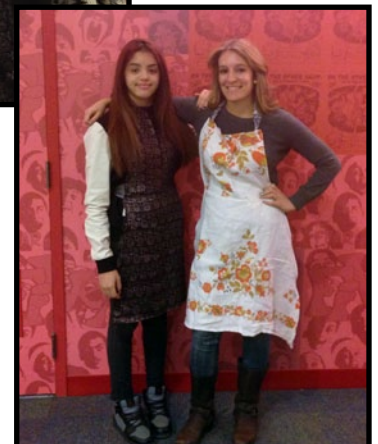
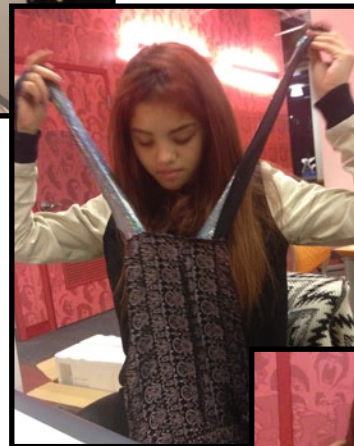
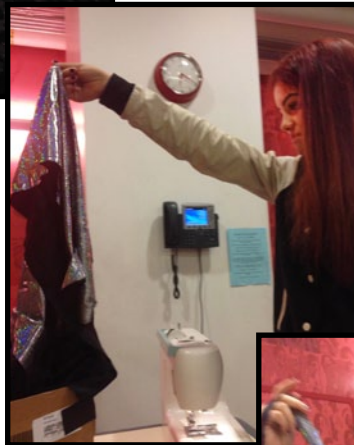
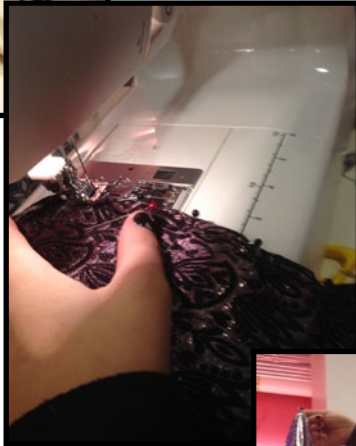
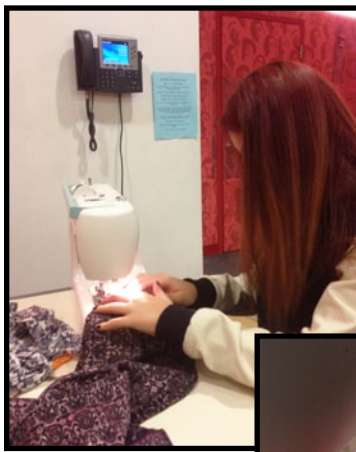
by Makice Love Pacheco
and Nancy Noto

Supplies:

- ✂ Needle and Thread
- ✂ Fabric
- ✂ Sewing machine
- ✂ Scissors
- ✂ Chalk
- ✂ Pins

Steps:

1. Choose fabric.
2. Lay it out on a floor or table.
3. Draw a lay-out of what you want it to look like.
Draw top and bottom separate from each other (not touching).
Draw for your size.
4. Cut it out.
5. Pin the pieces together.
6. Sew the pieces together.
Take out pins as you sew so it doesn't break the machine, you do not want to run over the needle.
7. Fold the edges to make a seam and pin it around all sides of the apron.
8. Sew what you just pinned to make the edges look nice.
9. Cut strips of fabric to make ties for your neck and waist.
10. Pin them to the places of the apron you want them to be.
11. Sew them on!
12. PUT ON APRON AND COOK FOOD!
13. EAT FOOD!
14. BE HAPPY! 🍷





GRB

Life's Lessons: Poetry by Jasmine Nicole Correa

That Girl You See

That girl you see with that big smile
And loud personality
Isn't really who you think she is.
Don't let her laughs and smile fool you.
Inside, she's not the same person.

That girl you see that everybody compliments
Even though she accepts it she doesn't believe them.
It's not because she wants more compliments,
It's because she truly doesn't believe them.

That girl you see in the daytime looking so confident,
Actually at night when she's alone
She thinks about her flaws.
She doesn't feel like she's good enough for anybody;
She wishes she was prettier, skinnier, smarter.

That girl you see that's there for everybody else
Wants somebody to be there for her.
She feels alone and feels not needed,
And sometimes thinks the world
would be better without her.

That girl you see so alive in the outside
Is actually dying inside.
That girl
Is me.

Rollercoaster

If we think about it
Life is a rollercoaster.
You know when you're on a rollercoaster
And in the start it's really steady.

Well, that's like when we're first born.
Everything seems so easy and life seems so calm,
But as we start to grow older life becomes less simple,
Like you know that feeling you get in your stomach.

When you go down the top of the rollercoaster,
And those screams you get as the rollercoaster gets
Faster and faster and faster.
That's like the feelings you have when you're going
through life.

Then, when that rollercoaster is done
And everything's back to being steady,
That's like the last breath,
The last breath you'll take. ⑤

When I first met you

When I first met you,
Part of me saw the future
But a part of me saw the past.

When I first met you,
Thousands of butterflies appeared in my stomach
But a thousand memories occupied my brain.

When I first met you,
I thought you were the one
But I never knew we would be a fallen love.

When I first met you,
My heart grew stronger
But when I lost you,
My sadness became longer.

What is love?

What is love?
Is it a fear that's hard to overcome?
Is it a happiness that can turn to sadness?
Is it a pain? Or is it a remedy?
How do you know you love someone?
Does it come at first sight? Or does it take time?

What is love?
Is it something that can kill you inside?
Or is it something that brings your spirit alive?
Is it a feeling that can go away?
Or does it stay with you until your last breath?

What is love?
Can there be different types of love?
When do you know?
Will we ever know the true definition of love?

MARIA MARTINEZ AND DEENAH SHUTZER STALK DOGS: A PHOTOJOURNALISTIC EXPERIMENT



Hudson sleeping on the job.



Deenah got caught!



German Shepherd Still Life.



'Sup? I'm Hudson. I'm scared of cameras.



Li'l Fluffball looking fine in his sweater.



Revenge: Maria got caught!



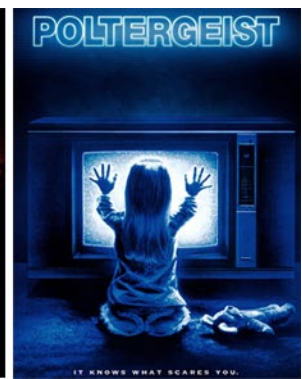
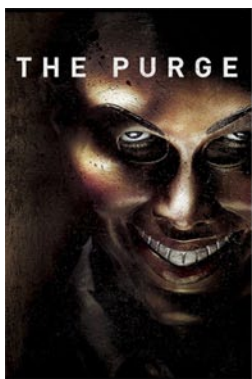
SAAAADIE! She loved her ball.



Our pretty feet in the snow.



Do you miss us yet?



HORROR FEMMES

When they did a One-on-One together last summer (see photo at right) Chyanne Peña and Darcy Fowler discovered a common love of scary movies. Now they each pick their top five horror films of all time.



WINSTON RODNEY

CHYANNE

The Purge – When I first heard about *The Purge* I thought it was about a suicidal teenager but when I saw it, it was the complete opposite. I found the film exceptional and heart beating.

Paranormal Activity 1, 2, 3, 4 – I was very much into the whole demon thing so I felt as if the film would fit perfectly to my liking.

American Horror Story: 1, 2, 3 – When I first started the series I had no idea what I was in for. *Murder House* (Season 1) was what got me obsessed

House At The End of the Street – I am a big fan of Jennifer Lawrence (who isn't?) so when I heard about H.A.T.E.O.T.S. I had to see it.

Poltergeist – When I first saw it I wasn't very impressed but later on I began to like it. 5

DARCY

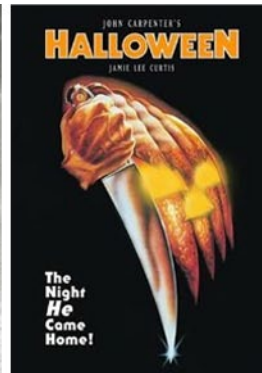
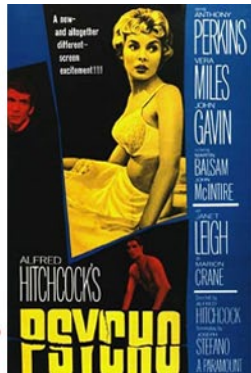
Texas Chainsaw Massacre – When I was a teen and my brother sat me down to watch this, I thought I was gonna hate it. Instead, it blew my mind. It's a masterpiece.

Psycho – First time I saw this, the detective going up the stairs scene and the skeleton in the chair scene scared me more than the famous shower scene. A classic, OBVIOUSLY!

Cabin in the Woods – This movie is everything I've ever dreamed of. Really. I wish I wrote it. The perfect horror comedy.

Halloween – "I SHOT HIM SIX TIMES!!" What else is there to say!

Suspiria – A dance academy full of witnesses! One of the best soundtracks ever! I tried watching this when I was 15 and turned it off after the first ten minutes because I was so scared. I feel like Chyanne would not be fazed. I have since gotten through the whole thing. 5



THE ALVIN AND GRAEME CHRONICLES: THE JOURNEY TO THE LOBSTERS

BY ALVIN GARCIA AND GRAEME GILLIS

PROLOGUE

When we last saw Alvin and Graeme, they were side by side in the hospital, crying in full body casts with Chipotle burritos on their stomachs. It took them two years to recover physically but the psychological wounds will stay with them forever.

Many things have happened since those dark times in which Alvin and Graeme returned to The 52nd Street Project as Smart Partners. Throughout this time, they have cooked burgers shaped like mustaches, cookies shaped like mustaches, ice cream that tasted too much like butter, milk shakes that also led to drinking a half-gallon of milk each, the greatest pot roast ever made, a banana cream pie that was not a success, and an apple pie that was a major improvement. Now we find them having cooked and eaten a ten pound turkey with stuffing, sides, and sprite.

The turkey's name was Daquan.

They are very full.

ONE

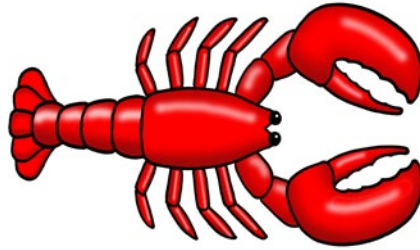
"Is this what Jay-Z feels like?" Alvin said to Graeme, as they sit on their orange chairs near the receptionist's desk.

Graeme replies, "Do you mean full and satisfied?" as he rubs his swollen stomach.

Alvin then says, "No, by that I mean depressed because there is nothing left to accomplish."

Graeme asks, "In terms of food?"

Alvin replies, "No, in terms of existence. We have done so much for our world. We have invented Fanball which is now the number one ranked sport in world. We have invented the game 'Who is a Douche?' which is now the number two ranked sport in the world. We have done tremendous research on



mustaches and contributed our findings to science, and now we have mustaches."

Graeme, experiencing "itis" (turkey-induced sleepiness) says, "All of those things are great. Why aren't you happy?" Alvin then looks down at his stomach in sadness and says, "Because I want more."

Graeme then says happily, "More turkey?"

Alvin explains, "No! I want to strive for greatness that is greater than the greatness that we already have."

Graeme quietly adds, "I'm sleepy."

Alvin continues, ignoring Graeme, "I have one last dream left, to cook a lobster and eat it, with biscuits."

Graeme, looking very alarmed and worried says, "But they are living things."

Alvin in disgust, stands up with all his force, looks Graeme right in the eye with anger and says, "There are many living things Graeme. This turkey that we just devoured was a living thing. The pot roast was beef that comes from a cow that is a living thing. Heck, even the lettuce in a salad is a living thing. Ever heard of photosynthesis, Graeme!?"

Graeme is asleep.

Alvin grabs Graeme by the shoulders and yells, "Graeme, cannibals eat people, people are living things, don't judge, Graeme!"

Graeme suddenly looks up with half-open eyes and says, "I won't judge and I'll do it, but I have a bad feeling about it."

Alvin then says, "Let's get to work."

Alvin and Graeme then shake with their turkey-infested hands.

TWO

Alvin and Graeme ponder on where to get the lobster.

Graeme then asks, "Where could we get lobster?"

Alvin then looks at Graeme puzzled and says, "I don't know."

Graeme then says, "We should ask someone, but who should we ask?"

Alvin then says with complete hope and relief, "We should ask George! He has helped us many times! Remember when he helped us put dolphins on our heads for our Smart Partner binder --" Graeme then interrupts, "When our team name was 'Now We're Dolphins.' George sure does love to help us."

In the deep corner in the back of the project, George overhears Alvin and Graeme's conversation. He punches a hole in the wall and his fist is stuck.

He utters, "I hate those guys, I love all children of the 52nd Street Project; I just hate Alvin and Graeme."

Alvin and Graeme then go to George and Alvin asks, "Hey, George?"

George then punches the wall with his other hand with the speed of a cobra.

"Are you ok?" Graeme asks.

George then says, "Oh yeah! I just saw a fly on the wall... *two* flies on the wall."

Alvin and Graeme then continue on with their question even though George's arms are each stuck in a different wall. "Do you know any places to get lobster?" they ask.

George then says in frustration, "No, I do not."

Graeme says very slowly like it is the best idea ever, "Can you Google it?"

George then says "Can't *you* guys go Google it?"

Alvin then quickly explains, "But you're sitting right in front of a computer."

George then yells "But my hands are stuck in the wall."

Graeme then happily says, like it is the best idea ever, "You can use your nose!"

George then looks down at the keyboard with sudden depression and anger. He then puts his nose on the letter L. When George clicks on "search" with his nose for lobster places, John, walking by quickly and purposefully, says very loudly to Alvin and Graeme, "You wanna go to the Sea Breeze Fish Market down by Port Authority, you can't miss it."

Alvin and Graeme then say with admiration, "Thank you, John."

John was already gone.

Alvin then says, "Let's go."

Graeme and Alvin then shake hands and go on their way.

George, with his face planted on the keyboard, types with his nose, "How do I get rid of Alvin and Graeme?"

Google then sends George a message that only says "SEND ALVIN TO COLLEGE!"

For the first time in the seven years since he met Alvin and Graeme, George smiles.

THREE

Alvin and Graeme then head down 10th Avenue and see Sonny right in front of Sonny's Meat Market and he says, "Alvin and Graeme, great to see you guys. What venture are you guys cooking up this time, first it was steak, then pot roast. What is next, Rack of Lamb? A nice suckling pig with an apple in the mouth? Haha!"

Sonny then slaps both Alvin and Graeme in the back very hard.

Graeme then says, "Sonny, we are actually going to get some lobsters."

Sonny then looks at Alvin and Graeme with confusion and says, "I don't sell lobster, guys." Graeme then says, "We are also looking for clarified

butter. Do you have that?"

Sonny with the straightest face quietly says, "This is a butcher shop, guys."

Graeme with sudden confidence looks Sonny right in the eye and says, "Your sign says Butter Shop."

Sonny then sighs and says, "The 'ch' fell off again!"

Alvin then smartly remarks, "It is actually pronounced Buter Shop since there is only one 't'."

This is too much for Sonny and his fury generates enough heat for him to say, "Get out of here!" Alvin calmly says, "Ok, we will just go to D'Agostino's."

Sonny looks off into the distance with a single tear sliding down his meaty cheek and he slowly utters, "D'Agostino's..."

He starts to say more but Alvin and Graeme are already gone.

Alvin and Graeme then enter D'Agostino's and start shopping for sides.

Graeme then puts corn on the cob in the grocery cart and Alvin asks, "Corn on the cob is for the summer! It is the middle of January."

Graeme then explains, "It will taste so good with the clarified butter."

Alvin nods his head with acceptance and says, "Speaking of that, where is the clarified butter?" Then a sudden voice emerges on the dairy aisle. It gets louder and louder with an accent as Italian as Fat Sal's Pizza. It then yells happily, "Did someone say clarified butter?"

Alvin and Graeme look and see her. She's a very short woman with a very round shape. She is wearing a floral dress with Gucci slippers. She has a noticeable mole on the left side of her neck, but a very bright face and an even brighter personality.

Alvin then asks in awe, "Who are you?" and she yells with all the force from her lungs:

"It's me, Mama D'Agostino!"

She continues "Silly boys, you can't

buy clarified butter; you have to *make* clarified butter. The way to make it is to heat the butter up and spoon out all of the fat."

Graeme with excitement, says, "That was very helpful!"

Alvin adds "Yeah! More helpful than Sonny."

Mama D'Agostino's face rapidly hits a peak of sadness and regret that no one has ever seen. She then cries out, "Did you say Sonny? Oh Sonny, mi amore!"

Graeme then asks "What happened between you and Sonny?"

Mama D'Agostino sighs heavily and says painfully, "It was 1905, we were young teenagers from Venice, Italy. My father had a small butcher shop right across the canal from his father's butcher shop. It was one of the greatest rivalries in Venice -"

Alvin then interrupts her and says, "Wait! 1905?! How old are you, Mama D'Agostino?"

Mama D'Agostino then yells, "You never ask a woman her age! But Sonny will be 125 next Christmas."

She then continues her story.

"We met during the Venetian Butcher Festival of 1905. The rivalry between our fathers was so intense that all of Venice came to watch them battle it out by carving meat. There was so much fury between them that they would stare at each other the whole time while carving the meat. They were trying to teach me and Sonny the same thing, so as I was carving the hamhock, I looked across the canal and all the gondolas, and there was Sonny, mi amore. He was chopping the head off of a goose and we both knew from there that it was love at first decapitation. Our love emerged through walks around the city and traveling by gondola at night and looking at the stars. It did not take long until the whole town knew about our beefy, porky, chicken-y romance. Our fathers were furious; they told us to never see each other again. Sonny and I then decided to start a new life in America. I



disguised myself as Sonny and he disguised himself as me and we headed to a big boat that would take us to New York. When we got there we started our own butcher shop and life was great. I then met a hipster vegetarian. He convinced me that eating meat is wrong because they are living things. I became a vegetarian days after, and Sonny thought I was cheating on him with the hipster vegetarian. There was nothing going on but his heart sank when he found out I became a vegetarian. I haven't spoken to him since. Now all I have is this lucrative chain of supermarkets that overprice on butter and other various items."

Graeme then asks, "But not clarified butter right?"

Mama D'Agostino then screams, "No! Not clarified butter, didn't you listen to what I said. Ugh! Just get out of here!"

Alvin and Graeme then leave and start their journey to the lobsters.

FOUR

Mama D'Agostino then chases Alvin and Graeme. Alvin and Graeme sprint as fast as they can. When Alvin and Graeme stop they end up in front of the Sea Breeze Fish Market.

It turns out Alvin and Graeme aren't really fast. It took five hours to get there.

When they walk in, there were wooden planks with algae on them like the bottom of a sea ship. Sea chanteys were playing on the radio. It smelled like a fish that hadn't showered in two weeks. A very old man with wooden planks for legs, a long beard, short hair and an eyepatch stumbles toward Alvin and Graeme and yells, "Ahoy Matey! How may I help you today?"

Graeme then says with much joy, "We are looking for big lobsters."

The old man's visible eye opens drastically and his mouth begins to water as he says, "Ohhhh, It was 1995 and the Atlantic was a cruel mistress and I, her willing servant, was willing to dance. We were searching for the Crustacean Moby Dick, we spent many years trying to find

a name of the specimen but we came to the conclusion that we should just name it the Crustacean Moby Dick. He was big, me matey!"

Alvin then asks curiously, "How big was it?"

The old man makes a creepy grin and says, "You know the Empire State Building?"

Alvin and Graeme nod and then the old man adds, "Not that big, but big enough that after chasing that lobster, I would never be the same man again. You see, I was a very handsome man with two working legs and the desire to be the best fisherman of all the seven seas. I went to the Atlantic with my men with big intentions. My wife was at home. Little did she know, I had a mistress, and her name was the Atlantic and as I mentioned before, A CRUEL MISTRESS WAS SHE!"



Alvin and Graeme then begin to walk away quietly and swiftly while the old man is still talking. Alvin and Graeme then walk to the old man's assistant. His name tag says "Queequeg."

Alvin and Graeme then ask, "Excuse me, is Queequeg your real name?"

The clerk then looks up and says, "No, that's not my name, we all have to wear these... the old captain calls every one Queequeg."

The old man then opens his eyes and yells with a furious passion, "Queequeg! Don't you be whispering about me to Queequeg and Queequeg!"

The clerk then sighs and hopelessly asks, "What can I do for you?"

Graeme then says happily, "We would like some lobsters."

The clerk then walks deeper into the store and Alvin and Graeme follow.

"Sure, who would you like? There are Thaddeus, Thelonus, Athena, Dr. Jay, Scooby, Shaggy, Dumbledore, and Eleanor Roosevelt," the clerk says.

"Wait, wait, they all have names?" Alvin asks.

The clerk happily replies, "Of course, they are living things."

Alvin then has a small moment of ponder and he makes a confused face.

"What about those two over there?" Graeme asks.

The clerk then sucks his teeth and says, "Oh, that's Edward and Eugene, they're nerd lobsters." Alvin and Graeme then look at each other with confusion and ask "What are nerd lobsters?"

The clerk then replies while getting Edward and Eugene out of the tank: "Nerd lobsters are lobsters that are not very good at sports, they just sit in their cave on Friday nights playing video games. They can't socialize with women, they can't socialize with anything, and they laugh at the same cat videos that they've seen over one hundred times that were not even funny in the first place."

"Hey! Show us some respect!" said Edward.

"Yeah! We went to college," Eugene said.

"University of Seattle!" Edward says.

"Masters in Marine Biology," Eugene says.

The clerk looks at Edward and Eugene and utters, "Whatever, nerds!"

Alvin and Graeme then say "Wait! The lobsters can talk?!"

The clerk then counters with: "Yes, they are living things, guys. They breathe, eat, live, love, compose music, struggle with arithmetic, overthrow dictatorships, lie to mothers, get the hiccups, sleep with the light on... Oh, God, they're peeing on my hand. You disgusting nerds!"

The clerk then throws Edward and Eugene in the bag. Edward and Eugene laugh uncontrollably and say, "Whatever, Queequeg."

Alvin and Graeme then pay for the lobsters and head out of the store where the Crustacean Moby Dick was hanging in a tank in front of the store. As Alvin and Graeme walk away with Edward and Eugene, The Crustacean Moby Dick sheds a single tear.

FIVE

Meanwhile, back at the Project, George is vigorously searching for colleges to send Alvin to, but he can't decide. George then looks around as he thinks and John walks past George's desk. George then stops John and asks, "How do I decide which college to send Alvin to?"

John then looks at George, smiles, and says, "You have to think like him."

George then says, "You're right!"

John was gone.

George thinks very hard and then comes up with an idea. He goes to Alvin's school. He sits at his desk, he goes to his locker, he eats Chipotle for lunch, he goes to basketball practice, he plays as center, he listens to the 20th anniversary reissue of *Illmatic*, and then he gets it. He runs back to the Project, ignoring the basketball coach, and when he gets to his desk he goes to the common application website and whispers "University of Michigan" and laughs and laughs and laughs.

And begins applying for financial aid.

SIX

Alvin and Graeme make their way north and a familiar face appears. It was a boy they were sure they had seen before. The boy certainly knew them.

"Alvin and Graeme, what are you guys doing here? You guys aren't usually down in the 40's," the boy says.

Graeme then says, "We went down here to get some lobsters!"

The boy, with a confused look on his face, asks, "Why don't you just eat at Red Lobster?"

Alvin then says, "There's a Red Lobster in New York?"

The boy happily says, "Yeah! It's right here."

Alvin and Graeme then look at the big Red Lobster right in front of them. Alvin then squints his eyes at Red Lobster, looks back at the boy with disgust and says, "Red Lobster is pathetic."

The boy awkwardly, yet happily, says, "Oh, but this is where I'm celebrating my twelfth birthday!"

Alvin then says with a straight face, "Being twelve is pathetic."

The boy, battling with sadness, says, "But you told me that being ten was pathetic two years ago." Alvin then says, "Being ten is pathetic; the only thing worse is being twelve. You were ok when you were eleven, but it's all over for you now."

The boy then puts his head down; sadness has won the battle. He slowly goes into Red Lobster and sadly consumes an entire buffet. Alvin and Graeme then continue their journey with their lobsters, Edward and Eugene.

SEVEN

It took them five hours to run from Hell's Kitchen, walking took twice as long.

The sun rose, and set, and rose again.

Their beards grew quickly, as beards do on men.

As the sun came up, it shined upon an establishment that haunts yet inspires them: Chipotle Mexican Grill.

Alvin and Graeme stand there in silence, Alvin sheds a tear.

Edward says, "What happened here?"

Graeme then says, "Well, Edward, funny you should ask!"

Graeme then told the story of him and Alvin going to Chipotle and how Alvin got hit by a van driven by a vegetarian hippy and lay in a coma for three months, after which Graeme woke him up and dragged his body to Ninth Avenue where they were surrounded by

fat sweaty McDonald's supporters who were only distracted by the appearance of Jared from Subway, whose flesh they devoured, allowing Graeme and Alvin to escape and break into Chipotle, only to be chased to the roof by the NYPD, at which point Graeme pushed Alvin off then dove behind him, mangling both of their bodies on the concrete below.

As the story went on, their beards grew even more, as they do on men...

It was a very long story.

Eugene then says, "You know, you could of just walked into Chipotle while it was open and just gotten your burrito."

Alvin then says "But we did it the Alvin and Graeme way."

Graeme then stares at Edward and Eugene and says, "Back in the bag nerds!"

They next find themselves at Sam Ash Music Store.

Graeme then says happily, "Oh, this is where we picked out your bass, Alvin."

Eugene then asks, "You play bass?"

Alvin then regretfully says, "Not anymore."

Edward then says, "So after you constantly bothered your mother for it, you don't play it anymore?"

Alvin then says, "Playing bass is commitment, what do you know about it?"

Eugene interrupts: "Actually, he knows a lot. Edward studied at Juilliard for music."

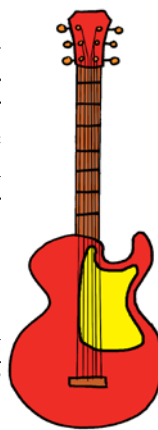
Alvin then with anger asks, "How?!"

Edward then replies with, "I'm a living thing, Alvin."

Alvin then hits another state of deep pondering, and Graeme then interrupts with "Back in the bag nerds! Alvin, look where we are!"

Alvin and Graeme suddenly appear in front of the Build-A-Bear Workshop.

Graeme then says, "This is where we got your mom's first Christmas present! We built her a bear!"



Alvin then corrects Graeme with, "It was a dog dressed as a lumberjack, when you squeeze its paw, it says, 'I love you, Mom. Merry Christmas.'"

Graeme then happily adds, "It was in your voice! Your mom cried! It was so sweet."

Edward then interrupts with, "You made your mother cry?"

Eugene then adds sarcastically, "Yeah. Merry Christmas, Mom."

Alvin then bursts out and yells, "What do you guys know? What did you ever do for your mother on Christmas?"

Edward and Eugene then look at each other in sadness and say, "Our mother is no longer with us."

It then hit Alvin. He finally realized Edward and Eugene's fate, he realized what they are capable of, and that they are living things with feelings, goals, and accomplishments.

As Alvin continues to be deep in thought, Graeme constantly tries to get his attention until he yells, "Alvin!"

Before Alvin replies, he notices that they are surrounded by fat...

Pale, heaving, sweaty, angry, fat faces were all around them.

Graeme then whispers with fear, "It's the guys from McDonald's that tried to eat us two years ago. They found us."

EIGHT

The leading fat guy of the group slowly claps his hands and says, "Well, well, well. We meet again, Alvin and Graeme. I bet you are regretting what you said about McDonald's, Alvin."

Alvin then looks at the man with confusion and says, "What did I say about McDonald's?"

The man then says, "You said Chipotle is better than McDonald's!"

Alvin then replies, "Well, Chipotle is better than McDonald's. First off it is way more nutritious. The atmosphere is way better. Their restrooms are cleaner. The workers at least have a sense of

satisfaction for their customer. I can actually see what the workers are cooking and with what. My food doesn't taste like it has fried in batter and grease."

The rage of the fat guys reached a point to where the leading fat guy says, "I'll fry you in batter and grease!"

One of the fat guys then says, "That's gonna taste great!"

Another one adds, "We should get some gravy!"

Graeme then grabs Alvin by the shirt, gets Edward and Eugene and says, "Alvin! Run!"

Alvin and Graeme then sprint uptown. Due to their inability to run as fast as Alvin and Graeme, the fat guys hail tons of yellow cabs and chase after them. Alvin and Graeme would slow down for rests as they hit red lights. This chase continues all the way back to Hell's Kitchen; the fat guys had a huge fare. They paid the taxi drivers extra to go past red lights. They were gaining on Alvin and Graeme.

As they got closer and closer, a loud gobbly voice then splurged out saying, "Come in here, Alvin and Graeme; into Sonny's Meat Market."

Graeme then says, "Sonny's! We'll be safe in there!"

Alvin and Graeme run into Sonny's Meat Market. The door slams behind them and everything is dark. Graeme then happily says, "Hey, we got away from those fat guys; everything is coming up Alvin and Graeme!"

A small voice then emerges from the darkness: "Gobble."

More gobbles emerged until the sounds of thousands surround the dark room.

Alvin, terrified, turns on the light. He sees open cages everywhere. It smells like poultry. This butcher shop is one of a kind, one with no butcher, but turkeys. There are thousands of turkeys surrounding them... They look angry.

NINE

Well, well, well," says the leading turkey. "Alvin and Graeme, we have you at last."

Graeme then asks, "Where's Sonny?"

The leading turkey then says, "Don't worry about Sonny! Worry about yourself. Now you have to answer for your sins, you have to answer for Daquan!"

Alvin, confused and scared says, "What are you talking about?"

The leading turkey looks at Alvin with hatred and says, "You don't even remember. Unbelievable. Your Thanksgiving turkey that you basted with butter and consulted with Chef John at Recipes.com to create wonderful stuffing and delicious gravy?"

Graeme interrupts happily, "Of course I remember that!"

The leading turkey then asks sinis-terly, "Do you remember his name?"

The question itself set off a rumble and smell of fear in the lobster bag. Edward and Eugene were terrified and stayed silent. For their lives, Alvin and Graeme could not remember the name of the turkey. They shrugged.

"Daquan! You named it Daquan!" the leading turkey says.

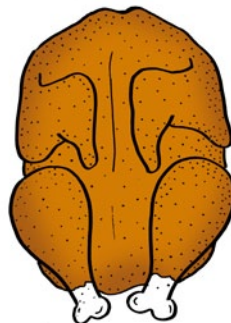
Alvin and Graeme look at each other and say, "Oh, yeah! Daquan!"

The leading turkey then says, "Daquan wasn't just a turkey; he was a *Sonny's* turkey. Now you're never going to have a turkey ever again!"

As they get closer to Alvin and Graeme, Alvin says, "What should we do?"

Graeme then replies with, "I don't know; we're surrounded."

Edward then pops out of the bag and says, "You know, turkeys aren't as intelligent as lobsters or people. I bet you just say 'Look over there' and they'll look. That will give you time to escape." Alvin and Graeme then accept the task by



nodding. Alvin then yells while pointing at the wall, "Guys, look over there!"

The turkeys all look at the wall and Alvin and Graeme make a run for it. The turkeys, now feeling embarrassed, run after Alvin and Graeme.

The fat guys get out of their taxi, broke. They are still angry and getting hungry. Alvin and Graeme run into the street where they are surrounded by hungry, tummy-rubbing fat guys and gobbling turkeys.

The leading turkey says, "I'm a-get a piece of them!"

The leading fat guy says, "No, I'm a-get a piece of them!"

The leading turkey says, "No! I'm a-get a piece of them!"

The leading fat guy quickly counters with, "I'll a-get a piece of you!"

All the turkeys yell and gasp in terror and anger. The leading turkey says, "Take that back, man."

The leading fat guy says with aggression, "Oh, yeah! I'll take it back. With gravy!"

The turkeys gobble in fury and rage and attack the leading fat guy. It turns into a war on Tenth Avenue. Turkeys flying, although they can't fly, fat guys running although they can't run. Alvin and Graeme then sneak into the old 52nd Street Project for safety.

When the war was over, everyone was on the floor in pain and hunger. The leading fat guy was the only survivor. He was starving. It had been a very big day. He looks at one of the turkeys on the floor. He gazes upon it with desire and hunger. He grabs it, takes it home and cooks it. When he took his first bite, he realized that real, cooked, authentic meat is superior to any served at a fast food establishment.

The leading fat guy spread the word about real meat and eventually a huge shift began in food consumption.

This eventually led to the McDonald's Corporation running out of business.

TEN

Alvin and Graeme were looking out from the window of the old Project. They noticed that the souls of the turkeys escaped their bodies. They all rose together slowly and gracefully until they reached the glorifying place of Turkey Heaven.

Turkey Heaven had golden gates, brown leaves, and orange skies. The turkey spirits were excited to see Daquan in the holy ground. They saw him and ran to him to console him. The thing is, this wasn't turkey Daquan... It was the real Daquan Nelson.

Daquan Nelson looks down at them from Turkey Heaven and says, "Wait, Why am I in Turkey Heaven? I am not a turkey and I didn't die!"

Alvin sighs and says, "Daquan Nelson, you died a heroic death."

Daquan Nelson says, "No, I didn't, I just celebrated my 18th birthday! You gave me a nice collared shirt and black shorts that didn't fit me so your mom had to return them."

Daquan then ponders and tries to think of why he would be in Turkey Heaven. Daquan asks, "How did I die?"

As Alvin and Graeme stay silent, Alvin gets a bright idea and says proudly, "Daquan, you don't understand. You didn't have an earthly real death. You had a GODLY death."

Daquan Nelson, with a curious look, says, "So you are saying that I was dipped in the river of Styx except my heel that was later pierced by an arrow? Or was I ripped apart by my legions of followers that had immense desire for me? Was my head split open with an axe so that my descendants could spill out?"

Alvin and Graeme then utter, "Um, yeah, that is exactly what happened."

Daquan Nelson then says with excitement, "So, am I a God?"

Alvin then says, "Of course you are. You are a Turkey God."

Daquan Nelson then says, "Turkey God?"

Edward and Eugene pop out of the bag. Edward says, "Yes. Turkey God is one of the rarest and most prestigious positions in the dimensions of heavens."

Eugene then happily adds, "There is only one Turkey God, and that is you, Daquan Nelson." Daquan then happily says, "Bow down to the Turkey God!"

Alvin, Graeme, Edward, and Eugene then bow down as Daquan Nelson ascends to Turkey Heaven above. Daquan then randomly says with excitement, "I love it up here."

He then proceeds to kiss a turkey on the cheek.

ELEVEN

Alvin and Graeme then realize they are in the old 52nd Street Project. They were in the activity room where kids would play ping-pong, write stories, and carve pumpkins. Alvin and Graeme stay in silence as they smile with admiration.

Edward asks with curiosity, "What is this place?"

Graeme then says, "This is the old 52nd Street Project."

Alvin adds, "This is where Graeme and I first met."

Alvin looks at Graeme and says, "Remember when we first met while I was doing REPLAY? We weren't even Smart Partners yet."

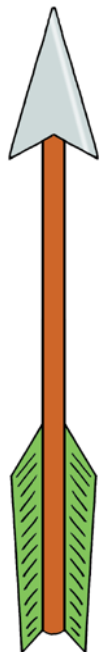
Graeme then replies happily, "We wrote our first story for Fivey here. Remember?"

Alvin then says, "Yeah. I was writing for so long I eventually got in a panic and went under the table." Graeme then counters, "But you actually got pretty creative down there."

Alvin then quickly replies with, "I got A LOT done down there."

Graeme then continues, "What was our first team name?"

Alvin then happily said, "The Dynamites."



Graeme nodded and said, "Oh, yeah, and then next year we became 'Mama's Boyz' because of our close relationship to our mothers."

"Then we became 'We Are Men Now' and we then ate steak because that is what men eat," Alvin said.

"After that we became 'Now We're Dolphins' and made George Photoshop dolphins heads on our faces," Graeme says happily.

"And finally we are now 'The Dynasty of Greatness' because we are awesome," Alvin says.

Graeme then says, "We actually didn't make a name for this year."

Alvin then nods and the room becomes silent. Alvin and Graeme then delve into a deep reminiscing conversation starting with Alvin.

"We cooked our first thing here: chocolate chip cookies."

"We watched videos with interviews of Lil Wayne and Kanye West in South Park in Liz's room."

"We made our first song on Garage-band here."

"We carved our first pumpkin here. We gave him shades like Kanye West and grills."

"We invented the beautiful game of Fanball here."

The conversation went for hours as Alvin and Graeme walked around the empty rooms. The floor contained emptiness, but to Alvin and Graeme it was filled with glorious memories that will never be forgotten. They circle back to the activity room and see the fan in the center of it. Graeme turns it on and the fan spins. A ball was lying in the corner of the room.

Alvin and Graeme look at each other and say in unison, "One last game."

They played Fanball for five hours and their 72 game series was tied at 36-36. Alvin and Graeme then look around and take it all in.

Alvin smiles and tells Graeme, "We are men now". They both laugh.

In a sense there was a sad tone of ending. An aura of "This is it", but Alvin and Graeme saw hope as they gazed upon it. They both knew that what started here and they will cherish it forever. The accomplishments, setbacks, and experiences have taken them to the area of beyond. There was no realization, just admiration and joy. Alvin and Graeme look at each other with hope and happiness, give slight nods, and leave slowly to finish what they started.

TWELVE

Alvin and Graeme then walk half a block up to the new 52nd Street Project. The skies were hazing blue and fading to orange as the clouds unknowingly turned from white to red. The door buzzed and many loud voices erupted from the speaker saying "IT'S OPEN!"

Alvin and Graeme open the door with confusion and wonder why it was so loud. Graeme then walks towards the stairs and Alvin says, "Let's take the elevator. I'm tired."

Graeme then smiles and says, "But we have to touch the Stanley Cup."

Alvin says, "Oh, right! Ok."

They then walk up the stairs with all the strength left in their bodies. Each step brought pain to their legs and lungs. It was only two flights of stairs to the cup, but it felt like a mountain. When they reached their destination they touched the Stanley Cup with one hand gracefully... like Champions.

They then realize they have to walk up more flights of stairs.

They struggle up all the way to floor 2M. Graeme tries to open the door and it won't open. He says, "I'm pulling but it won't budge."

Alvin then says, "Its 'push,' buddy. Here, let me do it."

Alvin opens the door. They turn the corner and see that it is a giant party. Everyone is there having a good time. Liz, Megan, Johanna, Alyssa, and Lisa are picking out music to play. Gus is at

the receptionist's desk with his Bruins shirt watching the scores of the game. Daquan Nelson is there eating pizza and telling the kids, "I'm a Turkey God! Bow down!" The kids bow down. Lee and Chamel are filming it all. Darcy is hugging everyone. Ray is snapping his fingers and pointing at people like the cool guy he is. Mikhaela and Valeria are making sliders and offering them to people. Carol is playing with Lily, her dog, near the receptionist's desk. The old captain is telling stories to the twelve-year old boy and calling him "Queequeg." The twelve-year old is enjoying the conversation. Alvin and Graeme's mothers are conversing about their kids and showing each other baby photos. Sonny and Mama D'Agostino are holding hands and smiling. Alvin and Graeme gaze upon the surprise celebration and forget what they were going to do.

Alvin then asks, "What were we going to do?"

John, then walking past them, says, "It's time to cook the lobsters."

Alvin says, "Oh, yeah. Thanks, John!"

John was already gone.

The table had all the supplies needed to make the meal. Alvin and Graeme walk to the kitchen and get ready to cook. Alvin puts a pot of water on top of the stove. The pot was big enough to fit twenty lobsters. Once Alvin presses the button to turn it on, Edward comes out of the bag saying, "What is going on, guys? We have been in this bag all day."

Alvin doesn't say a word and remains silent while the water boils. With each strand of hot steam, each boiled bubble, and each unit of heat, the pressure rises on Alvin. He feels like the room is getting smaller and smaller.

A couple of kids from the Project go to Alvin and say, "Are you going to boil those lobsters? You know what they say, right? If you boil a lobster their screams will haunt you for eternity." Another kid adds, "I hear they cry for their mothers."

Alvin's mom then says, "Oh, that's awful."

Alvin then angrily says, "Stay out of this, Mother!"



Graeme, noticing that Alvin is in a panic, asks him, "What's wrong, man?"

Alvin then says, "I don't think I can do this, man. I mean throughout this journey I learned that they are living things and their purpose is to live life and live free."

Edward then gets out of his bag, crawls to Alvin, and gently puts his claw on Alvin's hand and says, "Hey, buddy. It's gonna be ok. I'm about to drop some knowledge. Eugene, may you please hum a beautiful synth composition to create a great background for my speech."

Eugene begins to hum "We Don't Care" by Kanye West, then Edward interrupts, "How about something a little slower and softer?"

Eugene then hums "I'm the Man" by Aloe Blacc.

Edward then takes a deep breath and says, "Lobsters are living things and we have many goals and purposes. We contribute to science, we make friends, we play music, and we establish well-known businesses. But our highest purpose is to be eaten. We are living things, but so are you, Alvin. You have to eat living things to survive. A plant is a living thing; salads are living things. It's an ecosystem: we are part of an ecosystem and so are you. While you look up to the heavens, we look up to you, Alvin. To you, we are the sea, and to us, You Are The Sky."

With determination and inspiration Alvin and Graeme look at each other and say, "We Are The Sky!"

Alvin grabs Edward and Graeme grabs Eugene.

Alvin then asks Edward and Eugene, "Are you guys ready?"

Edward and Eugene stay silent, smile, and nod their heads.

John then comes out and says, "And actually they won't really scream when you put them in the pot, so just pop 'em right in."

Alvin and Graeme then gently put Edward and Eugene in the pot. Everyone was quiet looking at the pot. Edward and Eugene then turned a red which was more beautiful than the Red

Sea. Their souls mixed with the steam ascending to Lobster Heaven.

Daquan Nelson waves as they go up.

When all was done, Alvin and Graeme were sitting across from each other with their lobsters, corn on the cob, and biscuits. Mama D'Agostino hands them the clarified butter.

Right before they are about to eat George comes up to Alvin and says, "Alvin, I got some great news! You're going to college!"



Alvin then says, "Really? Where?"

George slowly says, "Michigan."

He continues, "I did your application for you. I wrote your personal statement, I did your supplements, I got you a scholarship, I handled your financial aid, I did it all!"

Alvin then happily says, "Thank you so much, George! This really means a lot to me. You really went out of your way."

George with a sinister smile quietly says, "Now I will never see you two guys again."

Once those words came out of his mouth, a sense of regret and melancholy hit him. He thought about Alvin and Graeme and all their hijinks and realized that he was going to miss them deeply. George begins to tear. He then says, "I'm really gonna miss you guys."

Alvin and Graeme smile and say, "We're gonna miss you too, George."

Graeme pours George a cup of Sprite and he says with Alvin, "Cheers!"

Everyone at the party says, happily, "Cheers!"

And from Lobster Heaven and Turkey Heaven, Edward, Eugene, and Daquan Nelson say: "Cheers!"

The End

EPILOGUE.

Mama D'Agostino and Sonny eventually got back together and started a

family. Their son, Butch, and daughter, Isabella, will continue the family business when they get older.

The Old Fisherman decided to move to China and begin exploring the Pacific Ocean and, as he said recently, "A cruel mistress is she!" No one has heard from him since.

After sending Alvin to college, George was inspired to send more young kids to college. He started a scholarship program that helps Smart Partner children go to college.

The Sea Breeze Fish Market expanded over the years and eventually bought Red Lobster.

The leading fat guy was rumored to be associated with the Illuminati after his discovery of real meat. No one has seen him since the rumor. Some say he was abducted by aliens.

The twelve-year old boy actually took his experiences with Alvin and Graeme and turned it into a positive. He got his doctorate in writing at NYU and wrote a book called *The Evil Alvin and Graeme*. The book was consigned by George.

John is still letting people know the facts at the Project.

Daquan Nelson is still in Turkey Heaven enjoying his power. He has even formed a religion for the fellow turkeys: Nelsonism.

Graeme lived to a ripe old age with many red-haired descendants. He always wished that his death would arrive via spontaneous combustion, but instead he died tragically rescuing his family from the wreckage of a destroyed sinking battleship. Up until that day, he and Alvin continued to remain good friends, and continued to show up at The 52nd Street Project, until finally, when Graeme was 91 and Alvin was 68, George politely asked them to leave.

Alvin graduated with his doctorate in Communications/Media Studies. He traveled across the world and eventually expanded The 52nd Street Project to other parts of the world. He eventually retired and lives happily in Bora Bora with his family. ⑤

MELISSA'S "FIRST CHAIRS" PLAYLIST 2014



GRB

In an orchestra, the First Chairs are considered the best players. That's why it is our team name! - M & J



Elementary School: Selena - "Amor Prohibido"

In an elementary school assignment, I once proudly stated that I was related to Selena. Jennifer Lopez played Selena in the movie, but I couldn't understand that she was just an actress. Because my mom's last name is Lopez, I thought she was a part of my family. All the women that surrounded me when I was younger listened to all of her music, and my aunt owned a t-shirt with the "Amor Prohibido" album cover on it. The title song was and still is very popular. I can't stop myself from watching "Amor Prohibido" covers when they show up on my YouTube homepage, and I've noticed that many of the covers are not sung by native Spanish speakers. It's nice to see the wide range of people who appreciate my "cousin!"



The Ultimate Guilty Pleasure: Breathe Carolina - "Hello Fascination"

To me, a guilty pleasure is something you're a little bit ashamed of. It's something that you think other people wouldn't expect from you. In my

case, it all began when I was in middle school. My friends and I all listened to the same type of weird music but I went even further and found some bands that they thought were ridiculous. At first, I defended those ridiculous bands, but as I got older I started realizing that maybe my friends were right. Maybe it was time to move on from Emo kid music. But now that a couple of years have gone by, I realize I that I will enjoy this song forever. Judge me. #DealWithIt.



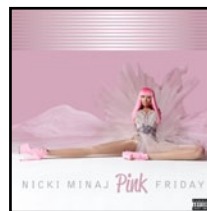
Dad: Mana - "Oye Mi Amor"

Mana is a Mexican rock band. This song was released in 1992 and has been one of my dad's favorites since then. It's a classic song that's popular in all Latin countries. When we go to family parties, the DJ always plays "Oye Mi Amor" because it's a crowd pleaser. Everyone always shouts along with the words. A lot of people do a particular style of dancing that consists of huddling, jumping, and some form of swaying.



My favorite trumpet piece: Chuck Mangione - "Feels So Good"

Chuck Mangione is a smooth jazz horn player from the '70s. Last year in jazz band, we got the music for this instrumental. To familiarize myself, I looked up a recording of the song and loved it. The flugelhorn carries the incredibly catchy melody that you've probably heard before. After reading *The Great Gatsby* in an English class later that year, we had the chance to do an extra credit project that related to the 1920s. Our teacher really enjoyed it when we incorporated our arts concentration into our projects. Spontaneously, I decided I would play "Feels So Good" on my trumpet and tell her it was a piece from the '20s. A couple of my band mates knew that the song came out in 1977, but my teacher totally bought it.



Birthday Song: Nicki Minaj - "Dear Old Nicki"

In Latin American culture, when a girl turns fifteen, her family throws her a big fancy fiesta called a *quinceañera*.

Usually, these parties have traditional dances matched with traditional songs like "Se Busca". Instead, I decided to use this **Nicki Minaj** instrumental. Even though nobody recognized the song, it was still important to me. I managed to be untraditional but still keep the Mexican custom. The first few bars of piano and synthesizer lines feel magical to me, and set the perfect mood for clinking champagne glasses.



**Most Anticipated:
Empire of the Sun
"Walking On A Dream"**

This June I will be going to Governor's Ball, a three-day music festival on Randall's Island. One of the bands performing is **Empire of the Sun**. Hearing a band perform live is cool because it's a lot more personal than listening to them through a pair of earphones. For my birthday last December, my family surprised me with **MGMT** concert tickets and hearing them play "Kids" live made me emotional. It's overwhelming to know that you're right there with one of your favorite bands and they're playing your favorite song (for your birthday, even)! Because "Walking On A Dream" is my all time favorite song, it's the thing I'm looking forward to most at this music festival.



**Friends: Girl Talk -
"Let it Out"**

I like this song because it's fun. It reminds me of a combination of all the times I've ever hung out with any of my friends. Nothing in this song is original. **Gregg Michael Gillis** (aka **Girl Talk**) specializes in mash-ups and sampling. His use of multiple genres feels a lot like all the different memories I've made. I can imagine listening to this song when I'm feeling reminiscent.

Mah Philosophy:



**Big D and
the Kids Table -
"Shining On"**

When this song comes on my iPod, it instantly puts a smile on my face. It's about being happy regardless of what's going on around you. I'm currently researching transcendentalism for a school project and I came across a piece of writing explaining that when

people are feeling defeated, they should remember that they don't actually have all the problems in the world. Most of the time, it's not as bad as they think. And I think that's what this song is about: enjoying the sunshine as you walk down the street. Because life's rough, but it's also kinda cool.



**The 52nd Street Project:
Youngblood Hawke -
"We Come Running"**

This is one of my favorite songs ever. Like all of my favorite songs, I don't listen to it all the time, and it's not the most played on my iPod but whenever I hear it, it puts me in a good mood. Last year in the Teen Ensemble, Megan asked us to choose a song for our curtain call. I recommended this one and although it didn't make the cut, it was in our exit music mix. We could hear it from the dressing rooms after the show and eventually, everyone started singing along. Before the Teen Ensemble, this was just a song that I really liked but now it's a song with great memories attached.



**College/The Future:
The Killers -
"Believe Me Natalie"**

This Fall I will be attending SUNY Plattsburgh and although I'm extremely excited, I'm also a little bit more nervous and scared than I'd like to admit. Being just a few months from graduating high school, I've realized that I'm not very good at being present. I tend to focus on the future and turn oblivious to the now. **The Killers** is one of my original favorite bands and I think this song truly embraces their classic celestial tones. I hope that this song serves me as a reminder to live every day presently because you never know when your last chance to disco might be. If you ever find yourself being too focused on the future or the past, try this mantra: Yesterday is gone, tomorrow is not a promise, and today is all we ever really have. 🍷

A VISIT TO NINTENDO WORLD

AN INTERVIEW WITH WILHELMINA OHENE KARI KARI BY LINDSAY TORREY

Lindsay: Hello. This is Lindsay and this is Wilhelmina. We are going to talk about our experience going to the Nintendo store in New York City. So, Wil. Tell me, have you ever been to the Nintendo store before?

Wil: No.

Lindsay: This was a first-time experience. Would you say you were excited to go?

Wil: Very excited.

Lindsay: Do you have any Nintendo games, currently?

Wil: Well, I think I have a lot. But there are two types: the regular and the 3DS, so which one do you want to hear about?

Lindsay: Um. Let's start off with the regular.

Wil: Okay. The regular: I have New Super Mario Bros., I did have Legend of Zelda, but I lost it. I don't know where it is. And then I had Mario and Sonic at the Olympic Winter Games, then I had... Augh! I don't remember any of them...

Lindsay: You have a lot, basically. So, for the people who do not understand these things, like your interviewer, Lindsay Torrey, what is the difference between a regular Nintendo and a Nintendo 3DS.

Wil: Alright, the difference is a Nintendo 3DS is slightly bigger than the DSi. Plus, with the 3DS you can play 3D games.

Lindsay: That's a significant difference. Alright, so we got on a bus at The 52nd Street Project,

took it across town, and arrived at the Nintendo store. Please tell everybody your first impression.

Wil: I thought it was AMAZING.

Lindsay: Let's describe the store. It is not one story, it is two stories.

Wil: Yes.



Lindsay: We came in, and immediately, to the right, there was a game set up that you were very excited about, I remember.

Wil: Yes. It was Legends of Zelda: Link Between Worlds. And YOU were playing Yoshi's New Island.

Lindsay: Yeah. I didn't know what I was doing.

Wil: Oh! Can I ask you a question?

Lindsay: Please!

Wil: I was looking at the reviews of Yoshi's New Island, and no one liked the kazoo music, so... was there music? To the game?

Lindsay: I feel like there was music playing everywhere in that place, so it was hard to tell.

Wil: Did it sound like a kazoo?

Lindsay: Don't remember. We

should go back, and we'll check.

Wil: Yes! We should GO BACK.

Lindsay: Okay. So, we started there, and then we started moving around the first floor of the Nintendo Store.

Wil: Yes.

Lindsay: I remember that there was a place where you can sit and plug in and then something would happen with other people.

Wil: Street Pass.

Lindsay: Street Pass! Please describe Street Pass.

Wil: Alright. So, when you have a 3DS, you can do Street Pass with other people. So, you have a "Mii" character that you make, that apparently looks like yourself, and then you do Street Pass with them.

Lindsay: And, so—what does it mean? It just means that you guys are friends in the world of Nintendo? No?

Wil: Sort of like that.

Lindsay: Sort of? And if you have more Street Pass people, does it, like, give you access to things?

Wil: Yes.

Lindsay: Okay! Please explain that.

Wil: Alright, so when you get it, there are these four things on the Street Pass, because they updated it. There's Mii Force, Flower Town, Warrior's Way and Monster Manor. So, if you have play coins, you could spend the play coins to earn people to come and



help you out with your stuff—like, for Mii Force, you have to defend the galaxy from the Gold Bone Gang. They're evil.

Lindsay: Obviously.

Wil: And then the Flower Town, you grow your own flowers, so you need people's help—so you need Street Pass to make your flowers grow—you could have a “BEA-UU-TIFUL” garden.

Lindsay: Alright! That's nice! Okay, I think I'm starting to understand. Then we went upstairs. How was the upstairs different from the downstairs, do you remember?

Wil: Upstairs you could play on Wii U. And there was more merchandise. And they had all the generations of the DS.

Lindsay: Yes! Do you remember when I pointed out the Nintendo that I had as a kid?

Wil: The Game Boy?

Lindsay: No, it was pre-Game Boy. It was even older. It was the second in the long line of Nintendos.

Wil: The second oldest?

Lindsay: Yes. And it involved Duck Hunt.

Wil: Oh.

Lindsay: Yeah.

Wil: That's old.

Lindsay: I know. Okay. So there was that. And then upstairs, there were the big screens? Right?

Wil: If you have Wii U and you have a TV, you can join those together.

Lindsay: There's a picture of you playing in front of a huge screen (see above). Was that a regular Nintendo set up to a big screen?

Wil: It was a Wii U set up to a big screen TV.

Lindsay: I see. Okay. That was cool. There was also merchandise.

Wil: Key Chains! Of Mario, Bowser, Luigi, and the—what is it? Gumba? And the toad.

Lindsay: Gumba! What does Gumba look like again?

Wil: You don't know what Mario is?!?

Lindsay: I know what Mario is!!!

Wil: You know how... those little brown mushroom with the feet? They're Gumbas.

Lindsay: They're Gumbas. A lot has changed.

Wil: And, you know, in an updated version of Mario, Super Mario 3D World, they have a cat suit. You can turn into a cat and climb on walls.

Lindsay: Mario can?

Wil: Mario can, yeah. Everyone can. Like: Luigi, Princess Peach, and Toad.

Lindsay: Just put on a cat suit, and they can climb up walls? That's really smart.

Wil: You need a cat bell, though.

Lindsay: A cat bell?

Wil: Yes. You need a cat bell to turn into Cat Mario, and then, in Super Mario 3D land, you need a tanuki. You need a tanuki leaf to turn into a tanuki so you can fly and stuff.

Lindsay: What's a tanuki?

Wil: It's a raccoon.

Lindsay: A raccoon is a tanuki?

Wil: Yeah.

Lindsay: Okay! Are there any final thoughts about Nintendo World?

Wil: I think Nintendo World was kind of ... It was pretty cool.

Lindsay: It was pretty cool. Do you think you might want to—

Wil: GO BACK? Yes. I would LOVE to go back. 🍄

Poetry in Performance

A Fivey Special Section

In the fall of 2013, eight Project kids participated in the *Lorraine Cohen Poetry In Performance* program. The next 8 pages contain original poems that were written during the workshop and publicly read by the poets at the Five Angels Theater on Monday, November 18, 2013. Also included are the kids' personal introductions to their works.

The adult volunteers who assisted us were Steven Hajar, Ginny Lee, Irene Sofia Lucio, Zoey Martinson, John Evans Reese, Christina Roussos, and Lindsay Torrey. It was led by Liz Bell and Nic Grelli, and we were honored to have guest poet Nehassiau DeGannes present some of her works to the kids.

A Card

What type of card it is?
A Queen of diamonds,
I wish I had those diamonds.
Is it king of the spades?
Is it ace of hearts?
Or jack of cloves?
Nope it is none of these
answers.
It turns out to be my library card.
Red, blue, and white.
Also had a rectangular shape.
I lost this card over 20 times
And I always find it. It reminds me
Of me. Since I'm lost most of the times.
Also reminds me of French class.
I get lost on the way there.

Aliens

I hate being an alien
Or called an E.T.
It gets on my nerves.
I have a name you know,
Fletch, Fletch Shooter.
I hate Pekoians which are known
As human.
I hate my life.
Only thing that is good is abducting, probing,
And dissecting. We want you.

JUSTIN BANNISTER

*"I am Justin
Bannister.
I'm also 12
years old.
What poetry
is to me: It
can be funny,
thoughtful,
sad, also can
be told like a
story. What
poetry does to
me: It makes
me excited."*



ALL POETRY PHOTOS BY WINSTON RODNEY

Nature

Mother Nature's first hue is green
But can't never last forever.
Though over time nature becomes different.
Then turns orange and starts fading away.
Finally there is scarlet, a hue
That has faded away.
Leaves must leave to be free.



SABRINA CALDONA

"Hi. My name is Sabrina Caldona. I am age 12 years old. I don't know why I like poetry. It makes me feel like I'm expressing my emotions in a different way. Everything inspires me to write poetry."

Old Lady

There's this old lady.
She's blind.
I bet she gets ignored a lot.
But I remember when I helped her get back to her building.
I bet she has a vague memory about it.
She's this person that no one really cares about
Because she's old and blind.
But I still remember that day,
And always say "hello" and "goodbye"
And always be nice to her when I see her.
But I try.
Because she's blind.
I feel somewhat sad.
Why? Because I don't think she'll ever see.
I hope she gets a chance to see someone before she dies.
I think, in her mind this world is perfect.
I wonder if she pictures me, helping her.
I wonder if she'll ever see.

Princess of War

Why must people hate me?
Is it because I kill? Is it because I have no emotion?
Is it the way I decided to live? Why must I be a secret?
On the outside I am a princess with no family, friends,
but only servants.
I am to be wed to a prince I don't even know.
I really want ramen right now.
People call me heartless, cruel, and mean,
Because I like to kill with no emotion.
Can I just be normal?

Can I do my magic in peace?!
Nobody knows how to do as much advanced magic
That I can do... It will help me one day to kill everyone,
And take over the emperor one day.

Person

I see this person,
Man to be exact.
He looks strong, but when I look
at his lifestyle and when
I look deep into his eyes... They
look sad.
Sure, he's burly and all,
But he lost his family, has no
money, and is very delicate
with others.
Maybe if I take him in as a
soldier, he will
Push away his feelings and be a
powerful unit.
Just maybe he can be just like
me... yeah, just.... Like me...
Well, off to kill the enemy now.
Possibly he will become
my only friend.



ALLYSSIA FELICIANO

"Hi my name is Allyssia Feliciano and I'm 12 years old. Thank you for coming. What I'm gonna show you today is my poetry. My poetry means a lot to me. Poetry makes me feel like I can do anything. My inspiration for these poems come from the world around me."

My Special Picture

I was very young
It saw me & I saw it
It talks to me
It connects with me
It reminds me of all the memories
It's dark like the sky at night
And sticky like coffee was on it
It makes me happy like candy on Halloween

Caution

Noituac

Smells like salt water sunset
 Talking to
Dark shadows the other side
River goes up and down
Cautiously

Alien

Dark and scary on the outside, but nice on the inside
Scares people at times but nice on the inside
Cool and funny but nice on the inside
Judges people also but nice on the inside
Big and tall but nice on the inside
I wonder if he's my friend I'm nice on the inside

Unicorn

She has a hard family
"Why is he mean to me"
"Why does the world do this to me"
She wonders about her life if she was different
It's her eyes that are dark
It's her hair that is white
It's her horn that is silver
She wonders
"I wonder"

Geese

Geese attack you.
Watch out.
Beware!
They wait for the right moment.
BLAM!
They attack!
Be caution. Beware.

Kit Kat

Should I eat my Kit Kat?
Before geese attack?
Maybe.
I don't know.
What do you think?
Should I sit and ponder and wink?
I don't know.
What do you think?

Perfect Turtle

I am elegant.
I am smart.
Perfect table manners.
Perfect me.

Wolf

Ahooooo, it goes.
It eats living flesh.
Should I run should I hide?
Oh wait I have a shell!
No need to hide I'm strong.

WILHELMINA OHENE KARI KARI

Age: 11

*What she liked:
I liked that it was fun.*

*What she learned:
I learned that there
are different types
of poems in poetry.*



Trash

It's all over the world
People throw trash
Never think about trash
How does trash hurt us?
How can we stop the world from throwing
trash?
Help
Help the world be clean

MARIA MARTINEZ

"Hi my name is Maria Martinez. I'm 12 years old. Poetry was fun these past 5 weeks. I learned that when you write poetry your emotion connects to your poem."



Sock Monkey

I was six years old
He was warm & soft
Losing him was tough
He made all my emotions build up
I couldn't stop them
Sometimes without him I don't feel safe
He is the one I cuddle with at night
He has big lips they are really red
His arms are long and they swing side to
side
His eyes are made of buttons
And he is the one thing that
Means the whole world to me

Adventure of A Fish

Boom Boom
There goes one
Then two
My clan
Kills those sharks

Ah ah
My home My home
My family
Where am I going now?
What's this I see?
I never seen this in the sea
Why is it so tall?
Help help
Glup glup
Yum what's this?
They never had it in the sea
I like this home
It is my home
Hello

Shell Box

I take 2 steps.
Glancing at the..
Cherished moments laughing,
playing, having fun.
Grandma, mom,
childhood!
I would never lose it, smooth on the inside,
rough on the out.
I'll keep it safe,
safe, where no one,
no one will touch it.
I'm its keeper.
These moments make me think
happy, sad, & over powered!
This leaves great
emotions, good emotions with me.
Touching emotions, crying emotion
in my heart.
Shell box.

Lonely Red

Lonely red ballerina.
Sitting alone.
They thought she was high class
But no.
Leave her out, OKAY.
Point & twist they say.
No emotion, just relentless.
Cry, you will fit in
only with everybody.
NO only yourself.
Jealous maybe, "crybaby."
Young lonely ballerina.
Sitting alone, once again.
Got no friends say hey.
You'll become someone,
someone, someday.

Theatrical Heavens

White.
Fluffy. She wears it
STRONG.
#awesome, Angel.
Angel, Angel, Angel look at you.
Pretty angel. Sent to poetry
to bless us with nice prayers.
Don't be mad Angel, we protect you
from bad poems.
Theater, you like it.
Imagine... white Angel.
Sleep, come back
next Monday. Never mind it's Veterans Day.



KAYLA MATOS

"Hey, my name is Kayla Matos; I'm 12 now. #Holla. My b-day was Sunday. Poetry was ok. Just kidding it was awesome. My favorite part was when we went outside with Steven; he's hashtag great. Also went with Allysia. We sang to the heavens "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston. And went to the pier. Have a good show. Peace."

A Fearful Wolf

It's a wolf. It loves winter.
It has green eyes when it's
scared. Is ready to kill and eat
that raw meat. I wonder why
it kills. He wouldn't want to
be killed.
Isn't that his fear?
What a wonderful
gray and black wolf.

A Death In Front Of My Face

I was
just standing there.
Then a Gun Shot went off.
I look, all I see was my
brother laying in the lazy
River filled with blood.
I froze then yelled
for help. I was scared
and I was shaking.
That day I wish god was
by my side, letting my brother
breathe again.

What A Lovely Turtle

It's a turtle, it's green with a
hard shell. Can't run as fast.
but will bite softly. She
loves the water, swimming
around looking for
something to eat.



TIMMY MILLER

*"Hi. I'm Timmy Miller.
I'm 13 years old.
I love writing poems.
I felt free to join the class
because I could write
about anything that I
wanted."*

DEREK TINEO

"My name is Derek Tineo. I'm 14 years old. The thing I like about poetry is that it can be about anything you want it to be about."



Wallet

My father gave it to me,
had it since I was 10.
It is black.
Can open up, it is soft.
Has no taste, makes no sound.
Keep numbers in it.
Reminds me of my dad.
Lost it one time.
It is always with me.
Will help you during times.

City

You can get crapped on.
You can step on crap.
You can get bit by rats.
What will win in a fight, bird or a rat?
How good is Subways?
Why they here?
Them teachers,
I don't like them.
I only like them if they give me good grades.

Soldier

Fights other people in war.
Many people die (friends).
Would eat animals and kill animals.
Would want to see their family.
If scared, would take a gun and shoot at it.
Home with your family.
Has family far away.
Love that it protects it's family and
other people in the world.
Has many teammates.
Never backs down from trouble.

A CONVERSATION WITH JONATHAN GROFF

By Genesis Hires and Rachel Rusch

To most American kids, **Jonathan Groff** is best known as the voice of Kristoff in the Disney animated hit film, *Frozen*. Some also remember him as Jesse St. James in the FOX show *Glee*. Grown-ups might know him from the HBO series *Looking*. To the kids and volunteers of The 52nd Street Project, he is famous for doing our first-ever fundraiser concert at the Five Angels in 2013. Playmaking fans will also remember him as one of the stars of Amer Mousa's Playmaking show, *Late Night with Eric Bond*. Jonathan, who should be famous for being super-nice, stopped by the Clubhouse to chat with Smart Partners **Genesis Hires** and **Rachel Rusch**.



Gen: Do you want to build a snowman?

Jon: Always. I always want to build a snowman. Yeah, I feel like I'd build a snowman any day.

Gen: How was it to work on "Frozen"?

Jon: It was awesome. That's the simple answer. And it was awesome because when I was a kid from as far as I can remember I loved Disney movies, and I used to dress up... I was *Mary Poppins* for Halloween when I was three years old. And I dressed up as Cinderella, and *Peter Pan*, and *Robin Hood*, and I was a huge Disney fan. So, it felt really cool to be in a Disney movie because I'm such a fan, because it was one of my obsessions growing up. And it's cool to see how the animators videotape you when you do it and they animate the character based on the facial expressions you make so that was a cool process to sort of see how that all came together.

Gen: What was your favorite part of "Frozen"?

Jon: I think my favorite part of working on "Frozen" was they would give you a scene, and you would do it a bunch of different ways and you would make it up as you went along and you would

get to improvise. Sometimes I would just close my eyes and imagine being the character, and just get lost in it, and that was probably my favorite part of doing it: when I would feel like I was actually the character. Which they do a lot at The 52nd Street Project in the acting. I see kids all the time doing that. And that's my favorite thing about acting too, like when you use your imagination so much that you trick yourself and really get lost in the situation you're playing.

Gen: What's your favorite pizza topping?

Jon: Pepperoni and extra cheese. Is that yours?

Gen: Yeah.

Jon: Do you like anything else other than pepperoni?

Gen: No.

Jon: I like sausage sometimes. But pepperoni is the best.

Gen: What's the best piece of advice someone ever gave you?

Jon: You're asking some hard-hitting questions. I like it. The first thing that comes to my mind, is don't let anyone steal your joy. And somebody said it to me when I was doing a play called "Spring Awakening" that we did in a really small theater. And then

it moved into a big Broadway theater. And when we were doing it at the small theater it felt like we were at summer camp. And we were having so much fun doing it. And this woman that came to see it said people are going to come review this show and people are going to be critical of it, and some people will like it and some won't like it, but the joy that you have doing it is what you really have to hold on to. And that was really good advice. And I still carry it through now.

Gen: What's your favorite song in "Frozen"?

Jon: It seems cliché, but I have to say "Let it Go."

Gen: Yay.

Jon: Is that your favorite song?

Gen: Yeah.

Jon: I love that song so much. I never get tired of hearing it. People send me clips of their kids singing it and I love it. It's such a good song. And it's such a good feeling. Let it go. I say it to myself all the time.

Gen: What are you obsessed with?

Jon: A lot of things. The first thing that comes to my mind is Sutton Foster. She's a Broadway actress. I saw her in high school.

She did a play called *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. And I saw it six times. She's doing a play right now called "*Violet*." And I've already seen it twice. I'm really obsessed with her. I look at clips online of her all the time. And I think she might be a little afraid of me, I'm so obsessed with her. And she probably should be.

Rachel: Does she know that you're obsessed with her?

Jon: She does. When I was watching Sutton in her show that I saw six times, I waited at the stage door the first two times, and then I waited across the street from the theater because I didn't want her to start to recognize me.

Gen: That's a little stalkerish.

Jon: I wanted to see her, but I didn't want her to see me. It's weird.

Rachel: That's a little...

Jon: A little creepy. But let it go. Let it goooo. Let it goooooo! (singing)

Gen: Will there be a "*Frozen 2*?"

Jon: I wish I knew an answer to that. I want there to be desperately. But it's also one of those things where it was so good the first time around that I feel like to make a second one they would feel a lot of pressure for it to be as great as the first one. But I really hope. My fingers are crossed. I would love for there to be a "*Frozen 2*." I have a question for you. What's your favorite color and I think I know what it is.

Gen: Blue!

Jon: It is? You totally tricked me

with the red pillow, the red back of your chair, the red hair. Red is my favorite color. So I'm fascinated with your hair and your chair. It looks really nice. What else are you obsessed with other than "*Frozen*?"

Gen: The internet

Jon: I'm on the internet all the time. What on the internet?

Gen: Youtube.

Jon: Me too! I'm obsessed with Youtube. That's what I was going to say was one of my other ob-



LIZ BELL

sessions. It's watching Youtube.

Gen: What do you watch on Youtube?

Jon: I watch Sutton Foster. Watching Sutton Foster on Youtube is like my two obsessions rolled into one. I watch a lot of people singing, I watch a lot of people falling down, I'm obsessed with news bloopers, so people on the news messing up, they make me laugh. One of them would definitely be watching news bloopers on Youtube. I find them hysterical. And then I also like watching cheerleaders fall down. Like in pyramids; no one gets hurt, but just watching them makes me laugh. What else? The popular ones, like the ones that circulate through, I like

to watch. I get really obsessed watching the same thing over and over again. Like you and "*Frozen*." Totally. I watched Mary Poppins, my mom says, every day as a kid. What TV shows do you like?

Gen: I like "*The Walking Dead*."

Jon: I've never seen "*The Walking Dead*," but I heard it's great. People are obsessed with "*The Walking Dead*." It's scary right?

Gen: Yeah...?

Rachel: What's scary about it?

Gen: The zombies!

Jon: The zombie apocalypse is no joke. That's scary.

Jon: What else are you obsessed with?

Gen: Food. What's something you don't like?

Jon: I didn't used to like brussels sprouts but now I do. because once you start eat-

ing brussels sprouts with bacon mixed in, then, I'm salivating right now thinking about them, I acquired a taste for them. I didn't used to like coffee, but this past year I started drinking coffee.

I'm trying to think of something I always don't like. I don't like melon. I don't even really like watermelon. I love watermelon flavored candy but that's not watermelon. ⑤

If you are as obsessed with obsessions as Jonathan, Rachel, and Genesis, turn to page 48 for more musings on such matters by Gen and Rach.

16 THINGS WE DISCOVERED AT:

Ripley's

By Stephanie Macias and Erin Felgar

Believe It or Not!®

1. It's exciting to explore things we might not believe.



2. This is just one piece of a collage made out of stamps. It took up an entire wall!



3. Robert Wadlow was almost 9 feet tall and still holds the record for World's Tallest Man. Also, Stephanie is only 4'8."



4. Mirrors can play tricks on our eyes.



5. This guy's beard covers his whole face!



6. This guy was the only guy on Earth to have an extra leg.



7. Lena Deeter could write forwards, backwards, and upside down.



8. Something creepy is going on! This savage, next to Stephanie, likes to fart.



9. Sandy Allen was known as the Gentle Giant.



10. You would not want to be stuck in a dungeon.



11. Over 2,500 years old, this hand was taken from the tomb of a young Egyptian noble.



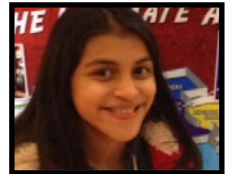
12. Stephanie can barely stand up in the Black Hole.



13. No one looks good with a shrunken head.



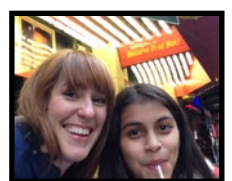
14. Looking at us in the past was hilarious in the end.



15. The Buddah guides us to the empty library with a small man. Spooky!



16. We enjoyed exploring new curiosities at Ripley's Believe it or Not! ☺



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE AND ERIN

THE DAY ME & MATTHEW ALMOST DIED

(Based on a true story because it really happened.)

Written by David Ortiz (a.k.a. davethekid; a.k.a. ONE OF A KIND)

One day, a long, long time ago (well, actually, several weeks ago), I was hanging out at the park known as Clinton Park. I was simply having fun riding my skateboard until my friends came: John, C.J., and Matthew. But, as minutes passed it started to rain and for some dumb reason, me and Matthew decided to go down 2 straight blocks down the road on a bicycle thinking that it was gonna be cool (and it was). But as we went up the block from the end of "Mercedes Benz," we got ready. Matthew rode on the bike itself and I stood on the most dangerous, SUICIDAL, and DUMB part of the bike. THE PEGS!



But yeah.... SO THEN IT STARTED! I decided to take out my phone to record the tape of myself going down the whole block just in case we got into an accident (What I mean by "accident" is "getting killed."). So there we go! We went down so fast, it felt like I was going 40,000,000,000,000 (I don't think that's a real number but you know what I mean) miles per minute, as I'm seeing my life flash before my eyes. I hear a loud "HONK" that was addressed to us. Matthew suddenly made a sharp turn to the left. Down the hill we go. As there are cars passing by us we are forced to go left to right to avoid any crashes. As the traffic cleared, Matthew suddenly noticed that there were no brakes on the bike. "DUDE WE GONNA DIIIEEEEE!" I panicked. Matthew replied confidently "I got feet." Matthew suddenly and carefully slid his foot to stop, but it wasn't enough until "HONK," I died...

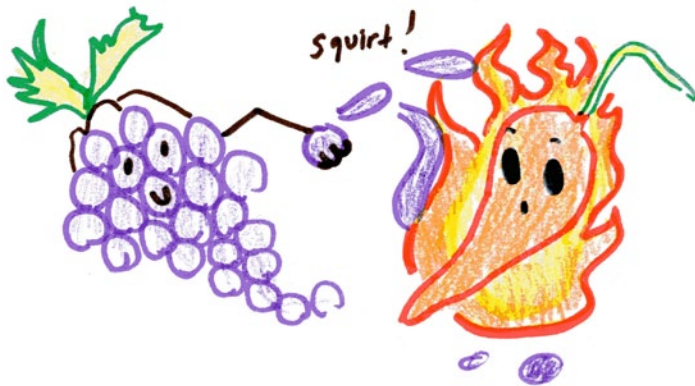
JUST KIDDING! We made it out alive using feet. ☺

Fruit vs Veggie



By Brandon Leon and Ariana Seigel

1.



2.



3.

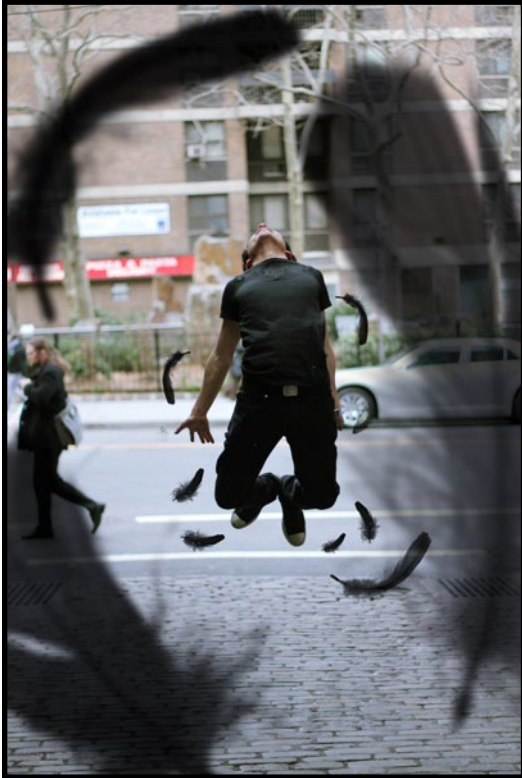


4.



DAQUAN NELSON: PHOTOGRAPHER/PHOTOSHOPPER

One of our teen-aged members recently entered a Skills USA contest for budding photographers and came in second in New York State! Here are some samples of Daquan Nelson's unique and highly creative work.



Never Controlled: Daquan describes this photo as an expression of "how we never feel freedom until we actually have it." This is Daquan's friend Kreg Franco with feathers photoshopped around him.



Untitled Known-ness: Daquan says he created this image when he was in a rush to complete an SVA portfolio and had "no ideas." He was sitting on his couch reading and trying to find inspiration. Guess he found it!



Alpha: The word Alpha usually means a beginning, and Daquan superimposed an image of the moon over his head to symbolize the end of one thing and the beginning of another. This is one of Daquan's prize-winning entries.



Empire State of Mind: Of this final self-portrait, Daquan says it represents "home and where I came from, since New York will always be a part of me." This was his other prize-winner. ⑤

The Murdering Cake Party

By Alex Malan & Matthew Jellison



GRB

One thundering night in the month of October, 1990 at Pennsylvania at the mansion, it was Jake's 27th birthday and his friends had made a very awesome cake with chocolate peanut butter frosting. But one of Jake's friends, Harry, said, "Maybe the cake

is too awesome" and then Jake's girlfriend Sam said, "No the cake is just right. Remember the party needs to be a murdering cake party theme."

So Harry and Sam set the cake on the table with the rest of the food. So Jake and Harry and Sam, Nick, Rick, and Matthew, sat at the table and ate the delicious food, except the cake.

"Thank you so much for making my best birthday ever. It means so much to me. Also how did you get the mansion and the food?" said Jake.

"We got the mansion by working at the lab testing the living serum more hours and the food was made by Harry and Sam," said Rick.

"What's the living serum?" asked Jake.

"It can make any deceased or not alive objects or things come to life," said Sam.

Harry turns off the lights to sing happy birthday to Jake. When Sam lights the candle, all the friends sing happy birthday to Jake. Then when Jake blows the candle they all hear a scream: "AHHHHHHHHHHH!!!"

Then Harry turns the lights on and they see the cake gone and Rick on the floor with cake stuffed in his mouth and they all run to the living room.

"Oh, my God, Rick is dead what are we going to do!!!!!" says Matthew.

Jake says, "Cool effects guys, totally looks real".

"Sorry to say but this isn't fake, IT IS REAL," says Harry.

Jake said, "But you guys made the game of the murdering party: One is going to be murdered and the rest are going to fake their death and solve who is the murderer."

Then Nick said, "This is so crazy I am out of here. Let's go, Matthew."

"Wait, don't go. The killer can be outside," said Harry.

As the two left out of the living room the lights went off and they heard screams... "AHHHHHHHHHHH!!!"

And they heard another scream... "AHHHHHHHHHHH!!!"

They all ran to the scene of the crime and they saw Matthew and Nick were on the ground with cake in their mouths. But then Sam discovered something; "Look at their mouths. There is cake in it. Doesn't that seem weird?"

Then Jake said, "Yeah, everyone who was killed had cake in their mouths."

Then Harry said "That means that the murderer is the----."

The lights turn off and Harry is on the floor with cake in his mouth. Then Jake said, "This always happen in TV shows. When someone knows the killer they die."

Sam tells Jake that the cake is the killer.

"That is crazy. There is no way it can be," Jake says to Sam.

"I think it is my fault because I made the living serum work and I didn't clean my hands at the lab," says Sam.

Then Jake said, "Look, the cake's frosting is falling off -- it is leading a trail."

They follow the trail to the roof and they see the cake. "It is over, evil cake, we are going to stop you!" Jake says while staring at the cake.

But the cake turned around and he had legs and arms. Also, he could talk. So he ordered the other foods to attack them. Then Jake asked Sam, "How are the other foods alive?"

Sam responded "Me and Harry made the food while we had the living serum in our hands." So they fought the pizzas, sandwiches, and cupcakes. Sam and Jake start-

ed punching and kicking the other foods off the roof. But they all grabbed onto the roof and kept fighting.

"I am so tired and I am so hungry," said Sam. "I got an idea." Then Sam ate all of the foods.

But then Sam fell down.

Then Jake comes to her and says, "Are you ok?"

Then Sam said, "I think I ate too much of the living serum and the living is only to be used once."

Then Jake said, "What happens if you do eat lots of living serum?"

Then Sam said, "Your body loses lots of energy and you die and I think I am about to ---- "

"NO!!!!!!!!!!!" said Jake screaming to the sky. Then the cake attacks Jake and throws him to the edge of the roof. "Wait! Before I die I learned something here. I need to grow up," Jake said to the cake.

So then the cake said in a demonic voice "Happy Birthday, Jake" and he throws him off the roof and Jake dies.

So the cake leaves the roof and goes inside the mansion to live happily ever after and thinks about what Jake said to him about growing up like a human. ⑤

ARTWORK BY ALEX MALAN



A meal at KTCHN

Food Review by Amber Ureña and Jennifer Jimenez

Amber and Jen review a trendy new restaurant in the Hell's Kitchen area. The name of the restaurant is KTCHN and is located at 508 West 42nd Street.



“Lobster Risotto Cubes”

The Executive Chef of KTCHN is Saul Pardo. When he heard that we were writing a review for *Fivey* magazine, he sent us a yummy appetizer. The appetizer was Lobster Risotto Cubes. They are small cube shapes made up of lobster and glazed with Lobster Aioli, which we learned was a type of mayonnaise.

“Jen”

Jen is smiling for the camera while she patiently waits to devour her meal. If you look carefully, you'll see Amber taking the snap in the mirror behind Jen!

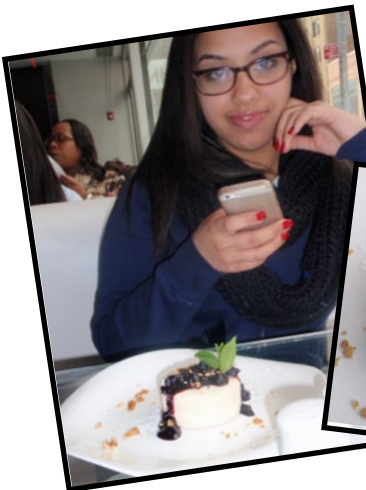


“Fish & Chips”

Jen decided to try the classic dish, Fish and Chips. This menu item was moderately priced at \$19. It was a hefty portion and served with homemade Old Bay Tartar Sauce, which she thought was just delightful!

“Cheddar Cheese Burger with Sexy Fries.”

Amber was intrigued with the name “Sexy Fries” on the menu and decided to try it out. Although the burger was wonderful, she was unimpressed by the fries. They were heavily seasoned with Paprika and Rosemary, and were, unfortunately, too salty for her liking.



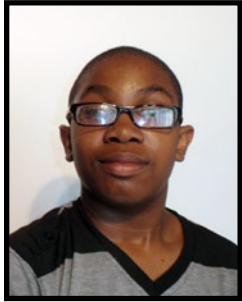
“Amber Meets Blueberry Cheesecake”

Amber is caught in action as she Instagrams her dessert. This is among the best desserts we've ever experienced, made fresh with blueberries and a toasted walnut caramel crumble. We recommend KTCHN restaurant to all Smart Partner pairs and Project volunteers. The ambience is warm and inviting. The staff is young and friendly. The food was great and the interior has some charming art to indulge in. For reservations call 212.868.2999 or for more information on KTCHN, visit www.ktchnnyc.com.



THE GREAT FOOSBALL EXPERIMENT

By Justin Bannister and Eric March



Justin

Hypothesis: The foosball table is slightly tilted in such a way that the black side would have a better chance of winning than the white side.

Experiment: We put up a poster on the wall and asked everybody from The 52nd Street Project (members and newcomers) to play foosball and write down their scores, which color won, what combination of people were playing (Kid-Adult, Kid-Kid, Adult-Adult), and which player won.



Eric

GRB

Timeframe:

October 4, 2013-February 7, 2014

Total Games Played:

56

Total Score by Color:

Black: 487 White: 339 (Black +148)

Overall Winning Percentage by Color:

Black: 59% White: 41% (Black +18%)



THE DATA

According to our data, black's overall percentage of winning is 59% while white is 41%. Therefore, the black side has a better chance of winning. In addition, we found that the kids absolutely obliterated the adults:

Total Kid-Adult Games Played:

38

Overall Winning Percentage by Age:

Kid: 74% Adult: 26%

We think that this is because kids have an advantage over adults in foosball because kids have been playing longer than adults, and kids are active and more focused than adults, who sometimes get sidetracked. Is black's advantage because kids are choosing black more often? Here are the numbers:

Black Choice in Kid-Adult Games:

Kids: 20 times Adults: 18 times

Since kids and adults chose black at basically the same rate, we can conclude that this is not the reason why black scored so many more points total. Therefore, we can conclude that the reason black is winning more often is due to something else, most likely the table being tilted. ⑥

MATTHEW AND DAIVA'S PIZZA JOURNEY

By Matthew Orozco and Daiva Deupree

Well, first we decided to make pizza. But we did not know what to do so we made a plan. Our plan was to go to a pizza restaurant. When we got there, there were so many pizzas that we didn't know what to get at first. After a while, we got ricotta and margherita pizza. Both slices were so delicious, sweet and tasty. Also, it was so hot it made smoke come out of our mouths.

After we tasted the pizza, we researched ingredients. We made a list and went to the store. Then, the next week we made pizza. We had to watch a couple of videos. In one of the videos we learned something, and that was how to make the pizza dough into a flat circle instead of a round ball. At first it was hard but then we changed it around and got it... sort of. We decided to start cooking. It was easy but the only thing WAS THAT EVERYONE wanted to eat it. Here are some thoughts we had...

Daiva: *I thought the white pizza was the best, and that next time we make margherita pizza, we should dry off the basil better. I also thought that Matthew was an expert pizza dough shaper.*

Matthew: *I thought it was good but that the white pizza could be cooked better and when we serve it, we should give it out right away so it doesn't get cold. AND the margherita pizza was an acquired taste. ⑤*



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW, DAIVA, AND LIZ BELL

MR. SHRIMP

Story and art by Nathaniel Ortiz



One day I went to school. I did writing and reading. I'm doing the worst period ever. Science class!

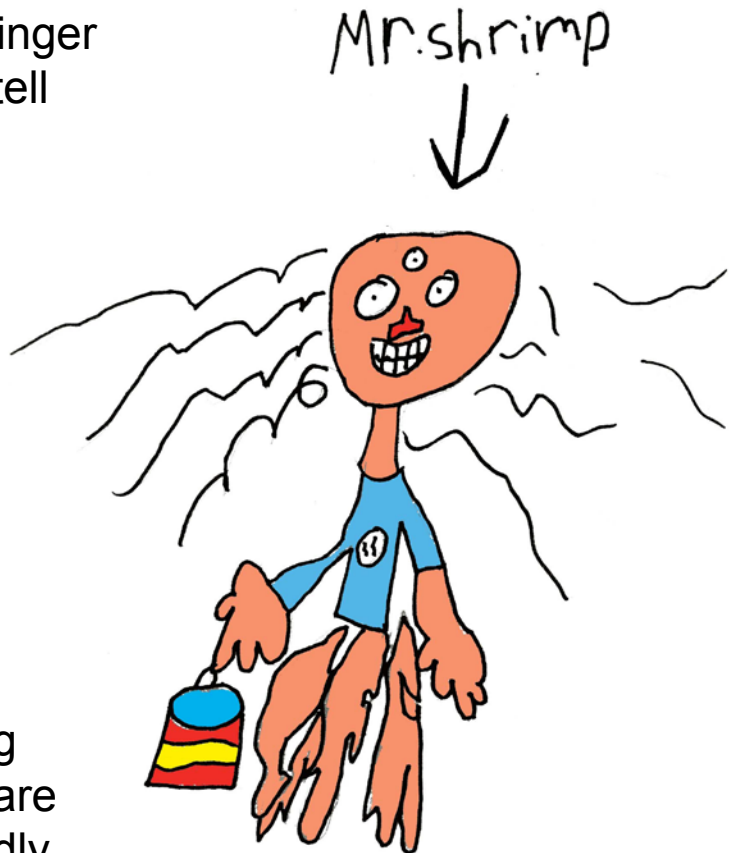
My teacher Mr. Shrimp is an alien. He drinks water with his finger and has 3 eyes. I need to tell my parents.

When I went home I told my parents that Mr. Shrimp is an alien. I told them everything that I saw. Their faces looked like they were keeping a secret from me.

I screamed, "Tell me! Tell me what you are keeping from me! Tell me what you are keeping from me!" I said loudly.

They told me I was an alien. They said everybody was one.

We went to the moon and ate moon pie. ☺



Wednesdays @ 6: Games!

Haikus!!!!

By: Jayda Camacho and Gayle Gitlitz



Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., Jayda and Gayle meet for their Smart Partner meeting. Mostly, they play the many games available to them at the Project Clubhouse. Here, in photos and verse, are their impressions of their meetings.



*Crushed at ping pong game
Jayda wins and Gayle does not
Only in your dreams*



*Score is 9 to 1
There is no way I can lose
Little does Gayle know*



*All my ships sink down
Are they even on the board?!
Yes, you just can't see*



*Stay silent don't move
She looks around the corner
Boo! Gotcha! You lose!*

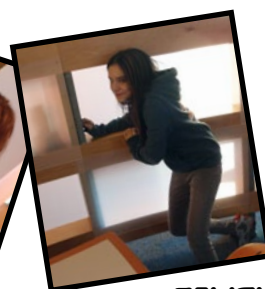


*Chilling at Clubhouse
Doing nothing... Laziness
Having fun...being awesome*



*(Our brains exploded,
no more Haiku rules! Plz!) 5*

PHOTOS BY GAYLE AND JAYDA



AMER AND RAY GO TO A **KNICKS** GAME

By
Amer
Mousa

and
Ray
Harold

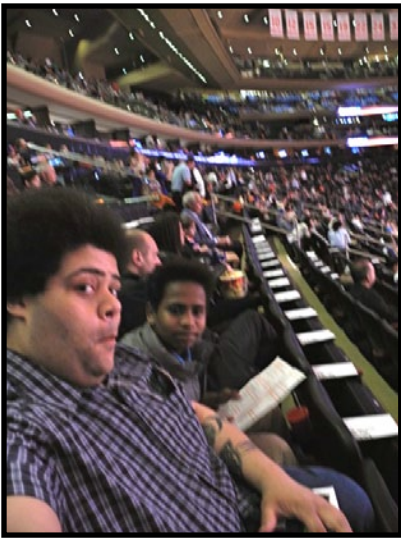


Even though the New York Knicks won't be a part of the NBA playoffs for the first time since the 2010 playoffs and Carmelo Anthony (the star of the Knicks) won't be attending the playoffs for the first time in his career, the Knicks managed to sneak out a victory over the 2013-2014 defensive player of the year, Joakim Noah and the 3rd seeded Bulls in Madison Square Garden, constantly acclaimed the most famous arena in the world.



GRB

Me and Ray got expensive Amar'e Stoudemire Club tickets to see the beating the Windy City got. I wasn't sure what to think of attending the New York Knicks Sunday game due to their not making the playoffs in the prior day. Ray thought there would be many second and third roster players since the stars were pretty upset on losing the playoff race with the Atlanta Hawks win over the defending champs, the Miami Heat. As we entered "The Mecca" I was hoping to see one of my favorite players and favorite center Joakim Noah get his 8th career triple double. Me and Ray took our seats which were amazing (thanks to The Project!) and we were hoping for an epic match between the 3rd seeded Chicago Bulls and the 9th seeded, no postseason team, the New York Knicks. I was rooting for the Bulls but boy, were there a lot of Knick fans there! The first quarter



ended and there weren't any players to look out for as the Bulls were up 22-19. The second quarter was much like the first but the New York Knicks took over and were up by 6 as they

took the lead, 45-39. Halftime was pretty good. I went to a soft ice cream stand to get a 7 dollar vanilla ice cream to refresh myself and Ray got a bottled water. The 3rd quarter was pretty explosive as reigning 6th man of the year J.R. Smith and Raymond Felton were shooting many 3 pointers to get the Knicks fans pretty pumped. J.R. Smith scored 17 points along with the 2nd player with most points in the league, Carmelo Anthony who came off of a shoulder injury. Tim Hardaway, Jr. was also got 20 points to lead all Knick scores. The Knicks stars were proving a point and outscored the Chicago Bulls 32-25 in the 3rd quarter. Late in



the third quarter, I asked Ray if the Knicks had this in the bag and he said, "If they can keep up what they're doing." Ray's words were right and the Knicks gave a strong finish to the game and a strong finish to the season. Remember how I said I wanted to see Joakim Noah get a triple double? Throughout the game he did! He was filling up the stat sheet with 13 points, 17 rebounds, and 9 assists. He was an assist short for getting yet another triple double and me and some other fans in the back row were hoping to see it! The Knicks finished with an 100-89 win over the Chicago Bulls with Tim Hardaway, Jr. scoring 20 points.

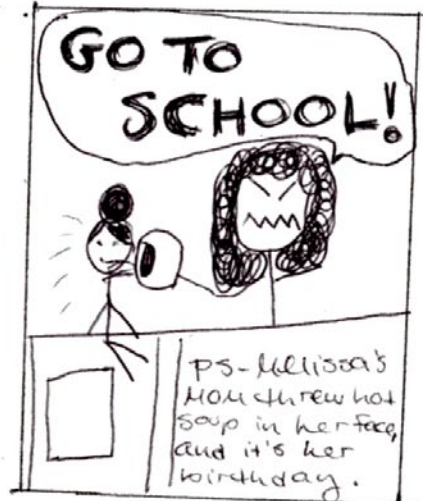
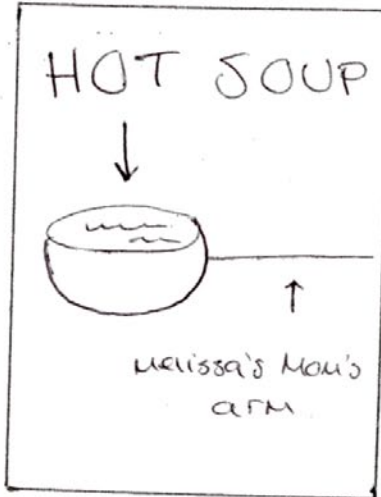
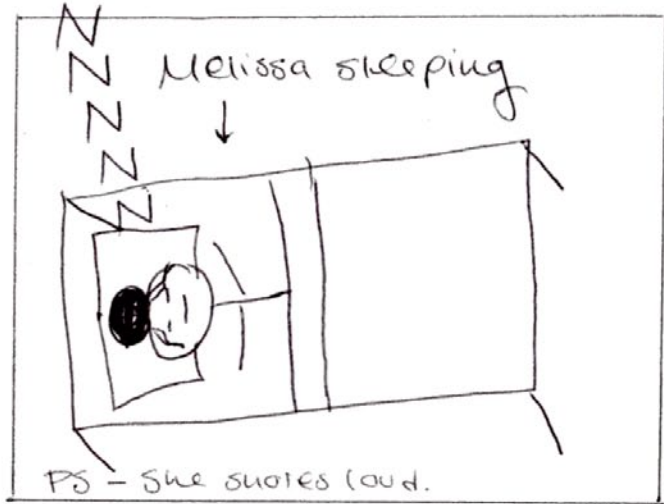


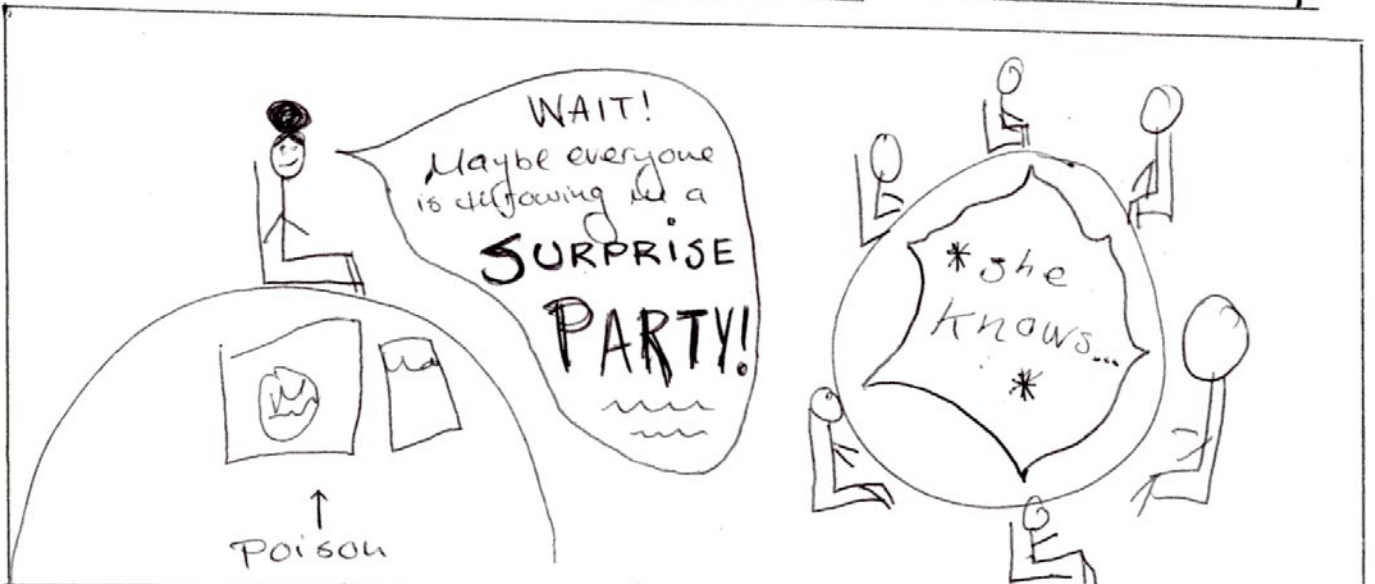
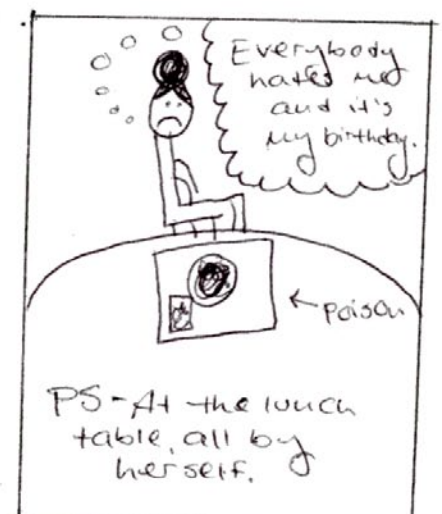
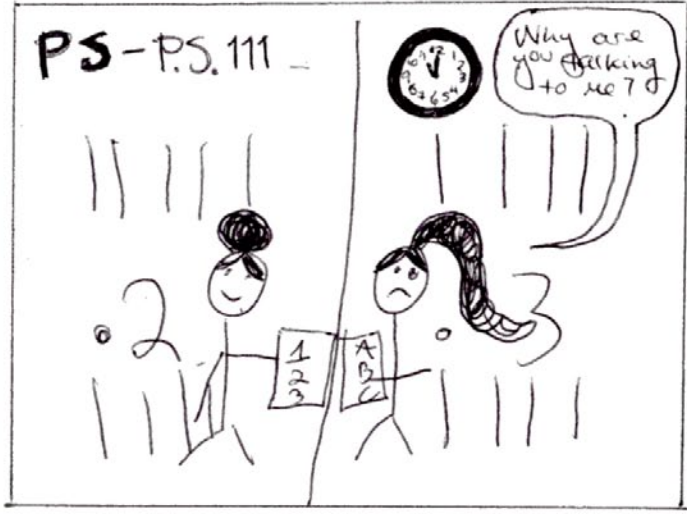
PHOTOS BY RAY AND AMIER

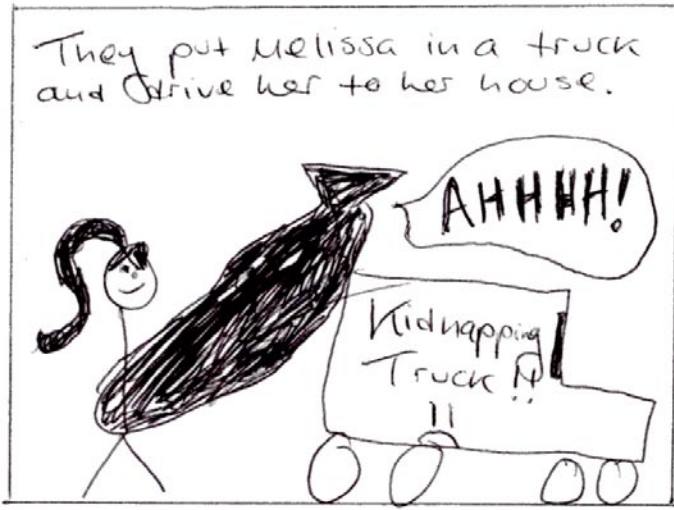
When Hardaway was asked about the game he said, "Even though we were down, we still gotta come out here and play. It's a pride thing and we take it very seriously. We just want to come out here and compete and try to get this win." Great job for the Knicks and there will be bright things for them in the future. As the new Knicks manager with 11 rings, Phil Jackson will make executive decisions with the Knicks to bring them to success in the 2014-2015 NBA season. First thing he did: kick off Coach Mike Woodson! Great job! Overall, this was a great match... But it would have still have been good if Joakim Noah got his triple double. ⑤

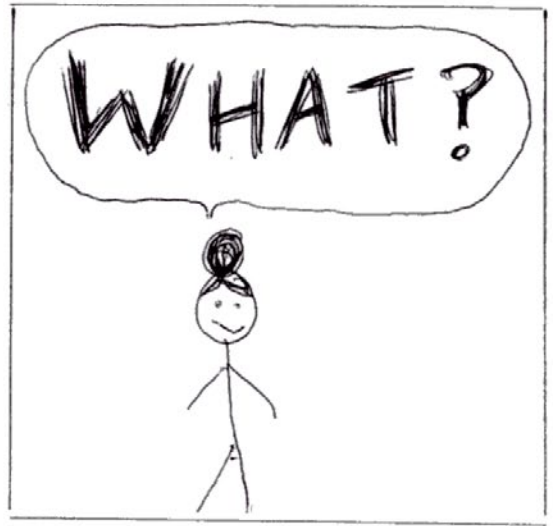
THE BIRTHDAY BASH

Comic strip by Valeria Oliva and Mikhaela Mahony









OBSESSIONS

It has become a common theme over the past few months that Genesis Hires and Rachel Rusch enjoy talking about things they are both obsessed with over a good game of Uno. Here are some of those things from this past year.



Things We Are Obsessed With:

Food

(enchiladas, rice, beans, fried chicken, pizza, dessert pizza, empanadas, pasta, all things Chipotle, Chinese food, and stuffing)

Uno

Green and Blue Hearts

Music

(Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, Selena Gomez, Beyonce, and Fifth Harmony)

Corny Jokes

Warm Weather

Rehearsing Funny Plays

Social Media

Heads-Up Charades

Flappy Bird

Inside Jokes

52nd Street Project Shows

The Walking Dead

Award Shows

Liz's Style

Jonathan Groff

"Frozen"



A heart-shaped pizza created by this obsessive duo.

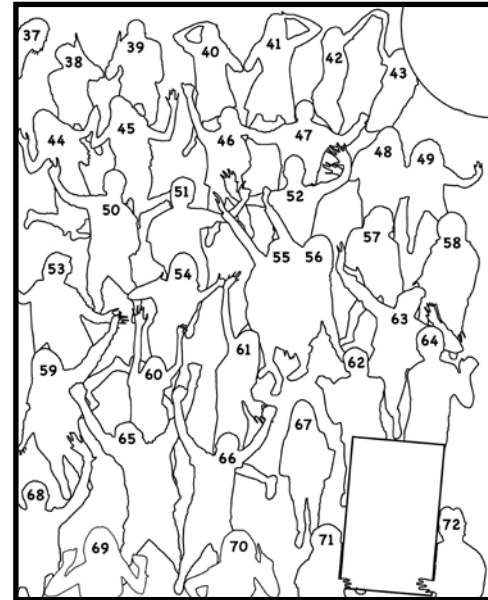
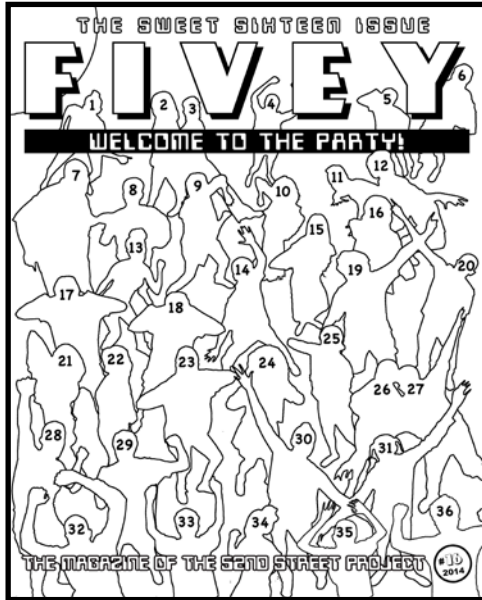
And since we are so obsessive about so many things... we thought we would write our own personal guide.

How to Know When You're Obsessed with Something:

- When you can't stop talking to your Smart Partner about it.
- You read and write "fan fiction" about it.
- You do online quizzes about it.
- You dream about it.
- You make up random songs about it.
- You annoy people about it.
- You can't get it out of your head.
- You don't want anyone to have the same obsession.
- You wrote a whole blog about it.
- You'll forever be obsessed with it.
- You "follow" or "like" it on every form of social media (fan pages especially).
- You tell facts about it. Even though no one asked. Or probably cares.
- You write about it and put it in *Fivey Magazine*. 🍷

THE KEY TO WHO'S MOVING AND GROOVING ON OUR COVERS

Do you know everyone on that dance floor? You DON'T? Well, here's a chart to help you get acquainted. Once you know all the names, get up on your feet and join us!



- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Erin Felgar | 19. Eric March | 37. Natalie Hirsch | 55. Elena Caballero |
| 2. Imani Lewis | 20. Justin Bannister | 38. Graeme Gillis | 56. Gabriella DeJesus |
| 3. Kim D. Sherman | 21. Katie Flahive | 39. Alvin Garcia | 57. Jenny Curry |
| 4. Stephanie Macias | 22. Natalia Caballero | 40. Sabrina Caldona | 58. Jazmine Mikell |
| 5. Alex Malan | 23. Christin Tetteh | 41. Christina Roussos | 59. Jasmine Nicole Correa |
| 6. Matthew Jellison | 24. Kayla Ortiz | 42. Julie Sharbutt | 60. Damian Tineo |
| 7. Ray Harold | 25. Karen Tineo | 43. Nathaly Trinidad | 61. Daiva Deupree |
| 8. Amer Mousa | 26. Jayla Alvarez | 44. Megan Cramer | 62. Michael Propster |
| 9. Brandon Leon | 27. Matthew Orozco | 45. Johanna Vidal | 63. Tiara Varela |
| 10. Ariana Seigel | 28. Joel Perez | 46. Chayse Peña | 64. Brandon Shaffer |
| 11. Nick Mills | 29. Kai Ceniza | 47. Richard Brea | 65. Lee Rosen |
| 12. Bryan Lopez | 30. Lindsay Torrey | 48. Britney Trinidad | 66. Chamel Rodney |
| 13. Kayla Matos | 31. Wilhelmina Ohene Kari Kari | 49. Jennifer Jimenez | 67. Ruby Zamora |
| 14. Milen Tokarev | 32. John Sheehy | 50. Patrick Clair | 68. Olivia Strauss |
| 15. Melissa Rebolledo | 33. Joshua Gomez | 51. Lucas Ruedel | 69. Lisa Kerner |
| 16. Joanna Parson | 34. Allyssia Feliciano | 52. Kamil Kuzminski | 70. Alyssa Anderson |
| 17. Luka Vassilaros | 35. Nathaniel Ortiz | 53. Mikhaela Mahony | 71. Carol Ochs |
| 18. Sasha Davis | 36. Marlon Sabastian Lopez | 54. Valeria Oliva | 72. Gus Rogerson |

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