

Vandermeer Toyota Poetry Prize Winners

Joint Prize Winners in 2018

“To Achieve Your Dreams Remember Your ABCs”

By Jaidan Purdy

“Haunted”

By Lila Cappelletti

To Achieve Your Dreams, Remember Your ABC's

By: Jaidan Purdy

- Attack your goals.
- Beat the impossible.
- Climb the mountain of your dreams.
- Don't ever back down.
- Excellent goals are the right way to go.
- Find the animal within you.
- Go for it!
- Have faith always.
- Ink can blurt out words and so can you.
- Jump over your obstacles.
- Kill the negativity inside of you.
- Live your life.
- Messy things will happen.
- Never cheat.
- Open your door to **greatness**
- Pillows are soft unlike the bumps in your road.
- Quitting gets you nowhere.
- Rest when you need to.
- Stick with your dreams.
- Try your best.
- Up is the right way to go.
- Visualize your path.
- Want it, then own it!
- Xcel your way up. [excell]
- You are nothing but yourself.
- Zip past the blocks in your road.

Haunted

I am haunted by the tears of yesterday; the loss of tomorrow
The growth of my mistakes; the cultivation of regret
By the bittersweet friendships I could not maintain

I am haunted by their voices whispering through the wind.

I am haunted by my ignorance, apathy, my failure to help
By the hearts I failed to mend; the cries that fell on deaf ears
Every goodbye I could not muster

I am haunted by the past that clings dearly to me like a shadow.

And yet...

I am wisdom won through tears and toil
I am the treasure I have lost and found
I am a dove ready to ride the breeze
I am the victory laying on the horizon

You see, I am life; with all its agony and joy