

S.T.E.P LITERARY JOURNAL



S.T.E.P. Literary Journal January 2010

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These are our thoughts and our words . . . that we wanted to share with you . . .

Where do you picture yourself in 2010 —Where, doing what, with whom? . . .

I see myself next year, my family all together. In our own place. Having a good job for me and my husband. And our new grandson visiting us on a regular basis.— Elena Sapigao



2010. I press to transpose and leave a heartfelt pass away and then I learn to scribble as the desk upholds my weight to

become the greatest poet and a good son to my parents. -Martin C.

Hi. I'm Chris and my wishes for next year is to be in the Navy, for my family to be happy, and to have a home, good health and get to be with my son, and All bad things go away, and to be successful and to take care of my responsibilities.—Chris

I see my self better and smarter and also in school have a good time. I also see my self with smarter people to see the world and better places.—Agustin Campos

In a year from now I would like to have a good job, a nice truck or jeep, a dog with a house and a back yard so the dog has room to live comfortably when I'm not there to take him for walks, and a girl that has her own place to live and comes over to sped the night about 4 times a week. – Richard E. Fayette

My goals that I've set for myself for this next year, are to get housing, to purchase a new car and to remain clean and sober. If I can remain sober, I have the upmost confidence in myself that these goals can be achieved. One other goal which I have set is to come back to the Wayfarer Center as a volunteer. To show others that your dreams and ambitions can come true. The light at the end of the tunnel gets brighter the more you concentrate on you goals.—Mark R. Navelski.



My very best Christmas happened some time ago when I was in my 20's. I used to work for a small business and I couldn't make ends meet. He gave us a large Christmas bonus to buy turkey for Christmas and presents to share with my friends. I love the Christmas tree and the lights all around. We cooked all day and watched TV and sang songs about Christmas and had a real good time. I was told not to celebrate Christmas, but this I could enjoy again, mostly having money to shop and eat all I want this dav!

Stephanie Pierce

The best Christmas ever would be this one if I could get a 7 day pass to spend it with my wife and new family. Oh yay and my dad letting my new wife come to his house!

Davy Moll

My Best Christmas Ever Was/ Would Be...

My best Christmas ever would be when I get a place I can afford and have all my children together, each and every one of them. Would be very happy. We can stay there for a very long time.

Glenda Sue Alarcon-Sereno

My best Christmas would be to have a place for me and my family to live. And to have my other brother come live with us. And to have a fun awesome Christmas. Also it would be fun to spend time with the people that love me.

Happy faces and sad faces

Stars and hearts

Hearts and stars

Joyful people, loving people, helping people

Abbelina Alarcon

My nicest Christmas ever would be in my very own place, decorated with lights on the outside of the house. I would put lawn decorations all over the lawn so that my daughter would be in awe every night before she goes to bed. We are able to put up the tree together. Of course she can have everything scattered while putting up the tree. After spending all that time decorating, I think the most enjoyable moment is being grateful for all the pain and hard work that it took to get and gratefulness to get her back.

Alisa K.

My best Christmas would be if my Dad was here to spend it with me and my children. This was going to be our first Christmas in over 20 years together. But I'm happy to have my children and husband.

Elena Sapigao

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My Best Christmas Ever Was/ Would Be...

My best Christmas ever was when all of us kids were still at home, probably 1974 or so. We always had good Christmases. I have good memories of those times.

Matt

My best Christmas ever would be my family together, safe, healthy and just enjoy the day together.

Jeni



My best Christmas was every one I spent with my family and friends.

My best Christmas would be seen through the eyes of my mother, watching the excitement and smiles on her children's faces.

Chris M.

My best Christmas ever was back in 1985. The morning started out like any normal Christmas, morning greetings and well wishes to the family, opening of the gifts and devouring of the goodies. Pretty normal, huh? Well, my family is Catholic and I mean hardcore Catholic. So that meant a lot of trips to church and a lot of kneeling during the holiday. So needless to say we were off to church early in the morning for mass.

Out the door we went, out back to the car, to open the garage. Well, when the door arose, instead of the family truckster, there were 2 brand new Yamaha 225 DXL's, ATV's. Couldn't help myself, out of my mouth came Holy Shi@. Wow, what a surprise. Couldn't believe my eyes. You see, I had been working all summer to save for a used one, and here sat 2 brand new ATV's. Even though I fell short of my goal, to buy one myself. The spirit of Christmas was working amazing works. I raced those ATV's the next summer in NY State Scramble and took third place.

Mark R. Navelski

The writings found in this journal are the original work of the writers. They have signed release forms and have given permission to the Woodland Public Library Literacy Service and the Yolo Wayfarer Center to publish their work both in print and in electronic media. By signing this release they retain ownership of the work but understand they will receive no compensation for the work and release both organizations from any legal liabilities.



My Best Mistake...

Trying to end my life – and ending up being hospitalized! In order to be released I had to have somewhere to go, which brought me here to the mission. I have met many really cool people. And I now have begun to develop a bond with my eldest sister and my niece, and we get closer each time we visit, which is something which I have always wanted to happen. We are now able to make up for a lot of lost years of not being very close.

Mary W

When I was younger, I fell in a swimming pool. Taught myself how to swim.

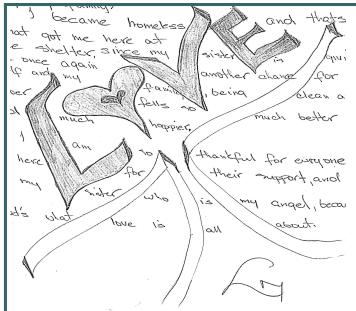
Elena Sapigao

Stress

As the days go by the pain gets harder to bear but I go on, looking for the light at the end of the tunnel. Sometimes I see something but I'm not sure what it is, could it be the light of social security or maybe housing? We'll see, I am patient so far. The people I've met help keep me focused on the path in front of me. Sometimes I get lost in clouds, that is my mind, other times I get lost in the past and that brings me down, to the point of not wanting to be here. But I fight that away by looking to where I have to get to.

Stephen





My Biggest Mistake in Life was trying drugs 'til I hit rock bottom, losing everything that I got, and being disowned by my family.

I became homeless and that's what got me here at the shelter since my sister is giving me once again another change for myself and my family, being clean and sober feels so much better and happier.

I am so thankful for everyone in here for their support, and to my sister who is my angle, because that's what love is all about.

G.

Word Pyramids...

Female

Sister Mother

Exploration Observation World

Love Music Art Family

Female – describes my gender which is the basis of what I am. I am a girl, lady, woman. I can be a sister, mother, friend. I grow life inside my body and love as much as any other can. There is no one word that can describe me because I can be each one of them in all.

Alex

Gay

Straight sometimes

Happy go lucky

Love sister and mom

Happy – love to laugh and love to make everybody laugh to forget my problems because laughter is the best medicine.

G.

Lonely

Happy Sad

Hurts to Love

Kind By the Heart

Love: I picked this one out of this pyramid because with all of the things bad becoming of this world, it is best to lead your life with this if you wish to live happily generally. Pain is included from sour fruit but love will still cripple the greatest of beasts. Even though there are negative feelings and words, with love imbedded deep in your soul positive words will still pour from every part of your being.

Arthur McKeller





Sunshine Always Bright Laugh and Smile All Day Every Day

Smile describes me, because I'm almost always smiling.

Mary W.

What Symbol Would I Choose to Represent Myself...?

A combination of my initials, <u>Kenny C</u>. <u>F</u>isk, and it's the same one I have been using since I saw my first Western movie and wanted my own brand.

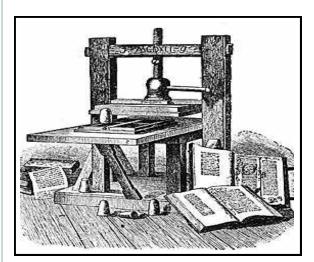
Kenny Fisk

Caution. So that I know at all times, I know that when I'm doing the next right for myself when nobody is looking so I don't end up in the same situation that I am. Also that I'm cautious who is around my daughter and who I can trust to enter as company in her life. I always believe that when a child believes that a child welcomes a person into the home.

Alisa K.

A tiger. If I could, I would use a tattoo on my back to symbolize concern for nature & the welfare of peoples. *Stephanie P.*

Most Important Invention to Me ...



The most important invention that means a lot to me is medication, meaning psych, without those I wouldn't be stable mentally or even balanced to live life itself or even have kids to raise at least until they were 18 months old. Living life on life terms without psych can be dangerous to self and to others and to the family and I am learning why they invented psych meds and why I have to take them for the rest of my life and in order to become the mom today.

Alisa Koenig

(What) Printing Press

(Why) To mass produce communication in written form in all written languages to enable the human race to teach and to learn.

Ex.: The Bible

Mark V.

Writing is the most important invention for me because it makes it easier to learn a vast amount of knowledge in a shorter period of time. It also makes it easier to communicate over a large area by sending letters to far away places. And those people who have trouble relaying their feelings (such as myself) can write down how they feel easier. And it can help those with failing memories retain information at a later date.

Mark R. Navelski

Editor's Note: This is the thirteenth edition of the Wayfarer Literary Journal, and we are very proud of the work within these pages. The pieces are a product of the Wayfarer "writing class" on Monday and Thursday nights, and the words are those of the author's, as written with all the humor, passion, sadness and joy that goes with them. We are proud not only of the work itself, but of the openness and courage it takes to share them