

InDepth

Summer 2024



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InsideOUT
WRITERS

INDEPTH LITERARY JOURNAL

The following select writings
are written by students of
Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall

In this edition, students exemplify truth
and courage through pen and paper.
Like a kaleidoscope, they write to shift
our perspectives with their words.
We are immensely proud of every
student who participated.
They are our fearless writers
and they persevered.

Is there a difference between love and kindness?
you could be kind to someone and not love them
but you could love someone
and not be kind to them
like, I'm kind to my probation officers
but I don't love them

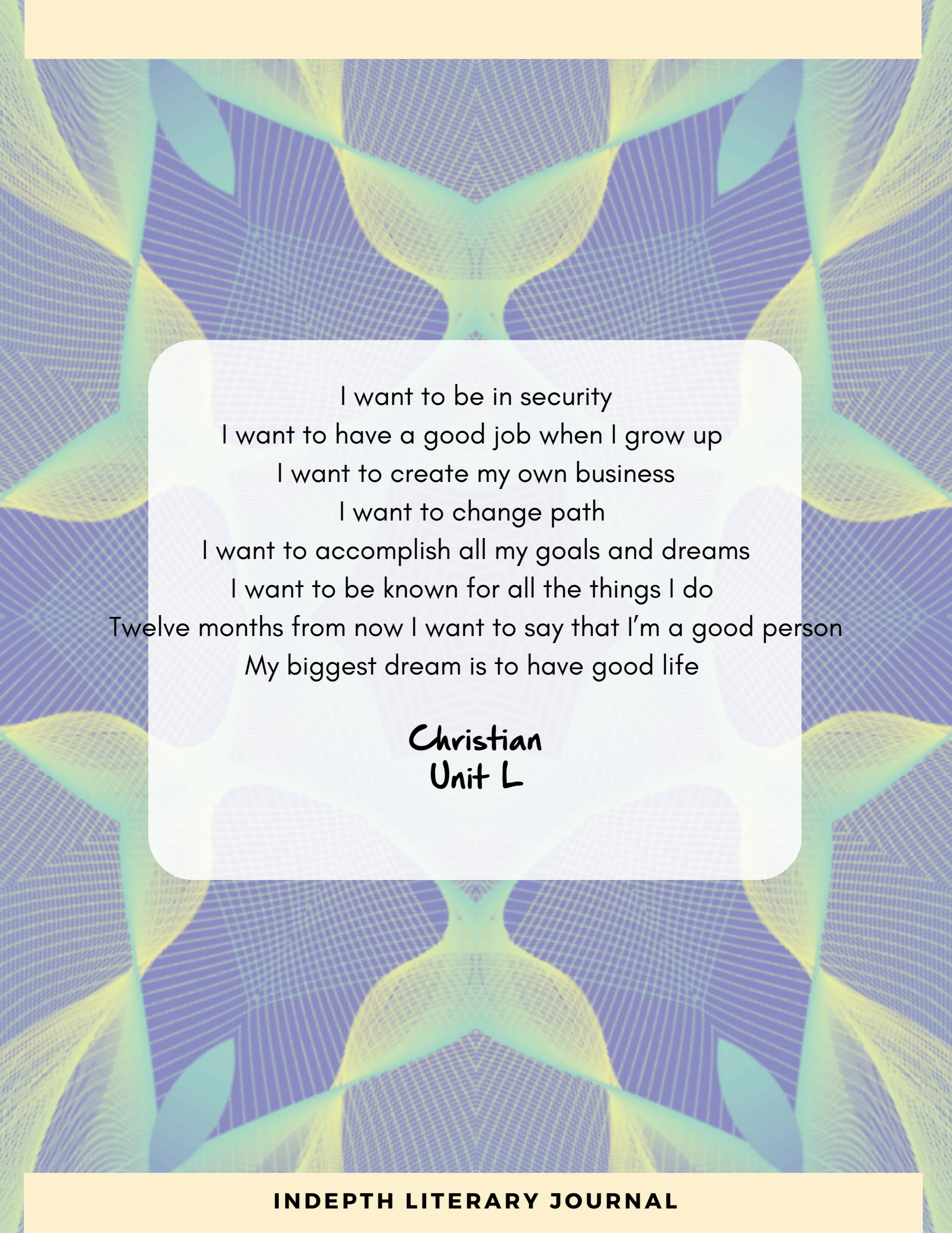
My childhood bestfriend got put on the enemies (neighborhood)
I will always love him
but I cannot be kind to him

Romy
Unit L

Before you know what kindness really is, you must
experience pain
you must feel the depths of pain
I have one person I can open up to
I must see how people can love you back
kindness shows up as someone who gave me advice
Kindness is treating others how you want to be treated

Isaac
Unit L





I want to be in security
I want to have a good job when I grow up
I want to create my own business
I want to change path
I want to accomplish all my goals and dreams
I want to be known for all the things I do
Twelve months from now I want to say that I'm a good person
My biggest dream is to have good life

**Christian
Unit L**

i started drawing inside the juvenile hall.
Monica gives me support and encourages me to
keep drawing and stop fighting.
I started back in November of last year.
When I arrived here at LP.
I spend my time free handing cartoon characters,
and drawing the buildings around me.
I use pencils to draw cause
when I make a mistakes,
I can easily erase my mistakes.

Christian
Unit L

My brother comes from the Mexico family
My brothers hair is black and has a taper like mine
My brothers hands work as a mini bike mechanic
He tells me to keep my head up
and to watch over my back
and to take care of my family
I would be curious about working together again
when we both get out of jail

Eker Montes
Unit L

O BE A BETTER PERSON

I know the Olympic athletes need to have a lot of qualities and values, like Motivation and Determination, and also when you want to be really good at any sport you have to sacrifice other parts of your life because you need to concentrate and practice to be good.

You also have to be prepared to lose. I play basketball, and I know that in any type of sport you're sometimes going to lose, and you have to accept your losses and you need for that to motivate you to do better.

Some people are not used to losing, but you have to have the mindset to handle whatever happens. That's not just in sports. In life you've got to accept that you're going to lose sometimes but you've got to stay motivated. You've got to get back up when you fall. You've got to keep a strong mindset and look for what your goals are, keep yourself determined, keep trying for better.

Now, I'm here, locked up.

My goal is to be ten times a better person than I was when I came in.

To be a better person includes understanding other people. I am saying this from the heart. There are always two sides to a story. There's a lot of misunderstanding and conflict between the youth in here, but everyone here just wants to be loved.

TO BE A BETTER PERSON (CONT.)

I used to be immature, but over the past year I matured a lot. I sat alone in my room and thought about both sides of the story of what happens between people. I feel bad sometimes for my part. Now I'm more mature and can look at questions like :” what is the other person thinking and feeling ?” I'm wanting to look at a new solution. Don't we all have so much to live for ?

There was a time I thought I wanted to spend the rest of my life in jail. I first got locked up when I was 13. It felt like I never had a chance for something different. But now, I've found reasons to live, including my little sister, who is living with out grandmother, and our grandmother is old and cant do everything. I need to be a role model for my little sister, and i want to take care of her. I have to keep my head up. I cant breakdown. My sister gets mad at me sometimes but now I understand why, because I left her, I wasnt there for her. Im the only father figure she has.

I think we all have pure hearts, but we can't always show our true selves. I think even people who seem cold-hearted, they are feeling something different inside.

Jonathan Rodriguez
Unit X1

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We extend our gratitude to the staff at Probation headquarters,
Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall and Central Juvenile Hall.
... and to our current teachers who continue to inspire, guide, and
encourage our students to express themselves one word at a time.

our current and past teachers

Fax Bahr
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The mission of InsideOUT Writers is to reduce the juvenile recidivism rate by providing a range of services that evolves to meet the needs of currently and formerly incarcerated youth and young adults.

Using creative writing as a catalyst for personal transformation, these young people are empowered with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully re-integrate into our communities becoming advocates for their future.

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