

This submission is from a young woman who remains detained on Christmas Island. She wrote the poems when she was a 17 year old unaccompanied minor detained on Christmas Island.



I WILL LIVE AND SURVIVE AND BE ASKED

How dangerous was it to leave my country alone?

How my family allowed me to leave?

How afraid I was for my self - that I would be raped or killed?

How I made the decision to travel alone?

How I survived without food some days?

How I walked bare feet - even as I got more injured?

How I allowed them to lock me inside a toilet?

How I stayed inside the toilet for hours?

How I jumped from far places and got damaged?

How I knew I had come to the right place?

I will live and survive and be asked:

How I felt to come by boat?

How I felt to risk my life?

Did I know I would stay in detention?

Did I know I had come 'illegally'?

But I will smile -

and I will listen to them -

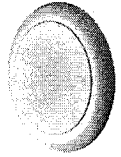
because when I survived the sea

I thought I was born again.

When they ask:

did you know the law was changed?

I WILL LIVE AND SURVIVE AND BE ASKED



I will tell them:

I didn't have a choice

When they say:

Doesn't it hurt you to remember?

I will answer them:

it is past.

When they ask:

What are u planning now?

What do you want to be in the future?

I will answer them:

I am planning to live in Australia


and I want to be a journalist.

They will ask:

what about if they send you somewhere else?

And I will say: "AS LONG AS I BREATHE I WILL REACH MY GOALS".





I WILL RISE

*You now lock me in detention
and damage my hopes
but it's like dust
and one day i will rise.*

*You may avoid my sadness
and send me to manus
but one day i will rise.*

*You may hide the reality
and break my heart
but one day i will rise.*

*You may send me to somewhere else.
why cant you help me?*

*I may be female of under age
who needs assistance from you.*

*You may send me to other countries
and shoot me with your words.
but one day i will rise*

*You may punish me
by saying lies
but one day i will rise*

*You may kill me with you hatefull action
but its like air*



I WILL RISE

and one day i will rise

You may never care about my awful past

and enjoy my tears

but one day i will rise

I may have bad memories

rooted in pain

but one day i will rise

I may have left fear life full of horror

but one day i will rise

Does my mind upset you

so full of thoughts?

I am an asylum seeker

who seeks for freedom and don't

have anywhere else to go.

Does it come as a surprise to you

that what ever you have done to me

I will forgive you

Where ever you send me

as long as i see the sun rise and the moon came up..

I will rise.....



Drowning in the Sadness Sea

They say life is a set of stairs where you can build your own dreams

But all I see is an image of my future which I can't reach.

How can I settle down when my mind has thousand thing to solve?

How can I repair my broken hopes when it is broken into million pieces?

I try to get up and bring together my broken hopes

But it was like a glass thrown from a high mountain

Sometimes I wonder why

And I wish I was never born at all

I wish I could pass away and not have to deal with this fall

Even fresh air is hard to get where I am.

I feel I have no answer for that

And more lights are around into my heart

But all is turning into dark

I am flapping my hands trying to swim

But I'm drowning in sadness sea

I used to have some happy days.

But now my days are full of sad

I cry a lot

But tears can't bring back what I want

I have tried to escape this life and run away from here

But sadness loves me too much

Why can't we get what we want at the right time

Why we have suffer before we reach the end

I have never been so miserable ever before

I wish I could run away and escape from this world

I look at the beautiful stars and the moon.

And they tell me: "you still have a chance."

So when I wake up in the morning

The sun is shining for me.

And they're telling me

"No matter how hard you have been through, you deserve to start a new life."

And so I try to hide my sadness

Inside the darkness in my heart.

My mum used to tell me "you're the apple of my eye"

But it ended when I left her.

Whenever I give up, I remember the moon, the stars and the sun.

No matter how hard your life is

You have to take sadness out of your ways.

You know you can't live in this world forever

You have to bring back your happiness

No matter who is against you

Or how hard the situation is.....

You have to fight for your dreams

You make it through this life

And pass all the tests

And one day you'll be through this

And get a taste of success.

The sun is still shining behind the clouds

It's still a good day and think I will be happy again

I only need to try it one day at time

I tell myself this situation is about to pass and not stay.

I have to learn:

How to love;

How to live;

And how to learn to let it go.....

