

The Games
Rebecca Zseder

I am young.

Walking 12 steps behind those 12 steps ahead.

I am the maybe, almost, not quite just yet.

I am the getting there but not exactly arrived.

I am the destination and the trip.

I am young.

I make mistakes.

I am madness through mishap.

Responsibility doesn't exactly trust me yet.

I don't exactly trust myself yet.

I don't even know myself yet.

I think I may but that may change. It always has.

It always does.

I will grow.

Like flowers, or hearts, or imagination.

Like sunlight, I will rise.

Everyday a new dream to discover or a new aspiration.

I have wisdom...to listen to.

I am young.

Always 12 steps behind those 12 steps ahead.

I am bright and uncertain and education fed.

I have time, so they said.

But my thoughts are timeless.

Having time implies having nothing to do.

I have an entire lifetime to draw and I hold the pen and I don't really know what to write just yet.

I am young.

I will learn from you.

But I know how to teach myself too, that is what I was born to do.

So let me create.

Bring me to the games.

Stand me between two white lines, I know how to colour in between them but rainbows were never drawn perfectly so why must I be?

Put me in the ring.

Give me gloves.

Red has always been my favourite colour, it reminds me of the fire in my soul.

I never thought in the box. I guess I can fight my way out of it now.

Bring me to the water.

Let me dive.

Let what lies before me propel what lies behind.

Let me swim into another dimension, there is so much of the water left to discover.

I guess I can be the first mermaid.

Bring me to the games.

Let me explain what kind of gladiator I am.

Let me explain what strength means to me.

Let me show them that youth doesn't make me weak.

In a world so big it is easy to feel small.

There will always be lines to stand behind, a box to be caged in, water to sink below.

But there will always be youth.

And there will always be you.

And you are a gladiator too.

We are the champions of the not yet discovered, the competitors of the not yet created, the athletes of the not yet played.

I am young.

I walk 12 steps behind those 12 steps ahead because I like to learn from mistakes.

I won't be washed away in a wake.

I am young.

I am strong.

So bring me to the games.

It is where strength belongs.