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Wayfarer

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Budding Writers Contest 2021

Budding Writers Contest

Wayfarer

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Wayfarer

Dear future self,

Do not mistake the raspberry stains on your fingers for blood

Sugar lace bandages won't heal your wounds

But they'll turn the pain bittersweet when brushed over morning dew

In May sunshine

Did you find peace,

Chasing a thousand stars when they vanished over your hometown

Each one pleading *Find me!* in that dark night

Or in the golden light of electric street lamps, teaching our

Shadow to dance

I once saw ink

In the dirt underneath my fingernails, swirling down the drain;

In veins that constrict our body like vines;

In coin-bought fresh farmer's market fruit, without postage to show

They're far from home

Before you go

Set violets atop your head in hair brushed by your mother

And sink your teeth into warm buttered bread

Promise to etch your footprints deep into the mud; journeys start

When others end.