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Dylan Baeckelandt

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Introduction

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Dylan with dreams of becoming a writer. This would be a solid introduction, if only his dreams were contained within that bubble. He didn't just want to write something, he didn't even want to be known as a writer. His dreams were too big for that. He dreamt of creating something so impactful that it would change the world for the better. Dylan wrote during his darkest days, he wrote when he felt completely burnt out and he kept writing even when it felt like he was always going to be unsatisfied with his work for his whole life.

For those who don't know, I'm Dylan. A few years ago, right before turning eighteen, I started releasing my writing to the world. It was terrifying to let the world see me as vulnerable and broken as I am, but it was also one of the most freeing things I've ever done. Perhaps I should be proud of myself for creating five books by the age of twenty-one. No matter how you look at it, that's a huge accomplishment. And yet, I am not satisfied. I have not had any impact on any of my readers.

I came into this world in 2003 and everything around me was on fire, metaphorically speaking. There is nothing anyone could've done to change the context of the world I found myself in. Everything was on fire, but we were all burning together.

As I grew up and learnt to understand the fire; I had only one goal in mind. When I grow up, I want to make sure I leave this world in a better state than when I first arrived here. I'm nearly twenty-three now and I have not yet reached my goal. But even now that writing makes me sick, there's still a huge part of me that wants to keep striving to accomplish that goal. Don't get me wrong, I am aware of the improbability of me ever getting there. But no matter what you're fighting for, if your goal is pure, you'll always have a good enough reason to fight. And even if I only change one person's life for the better by my mediocre writing, I know it will have been worth it.

It's been two years since my latest book was released and through a lot of trial and error, I finally found out what I wanted/needed to make during this section of my life. Something visually enticing, that's also accompanied by self-indulgent life

lessons and anecdotes. It may be narcissistic, repetitive and trash, but… Yeah, that's pretty much what you have to look forward to for now. Also I'm 23 now, hence the title of this book.

This book has been entirely ghostwritten by my dogs Chester and Snowy by the way. Welcome.

It Starts With A Poem

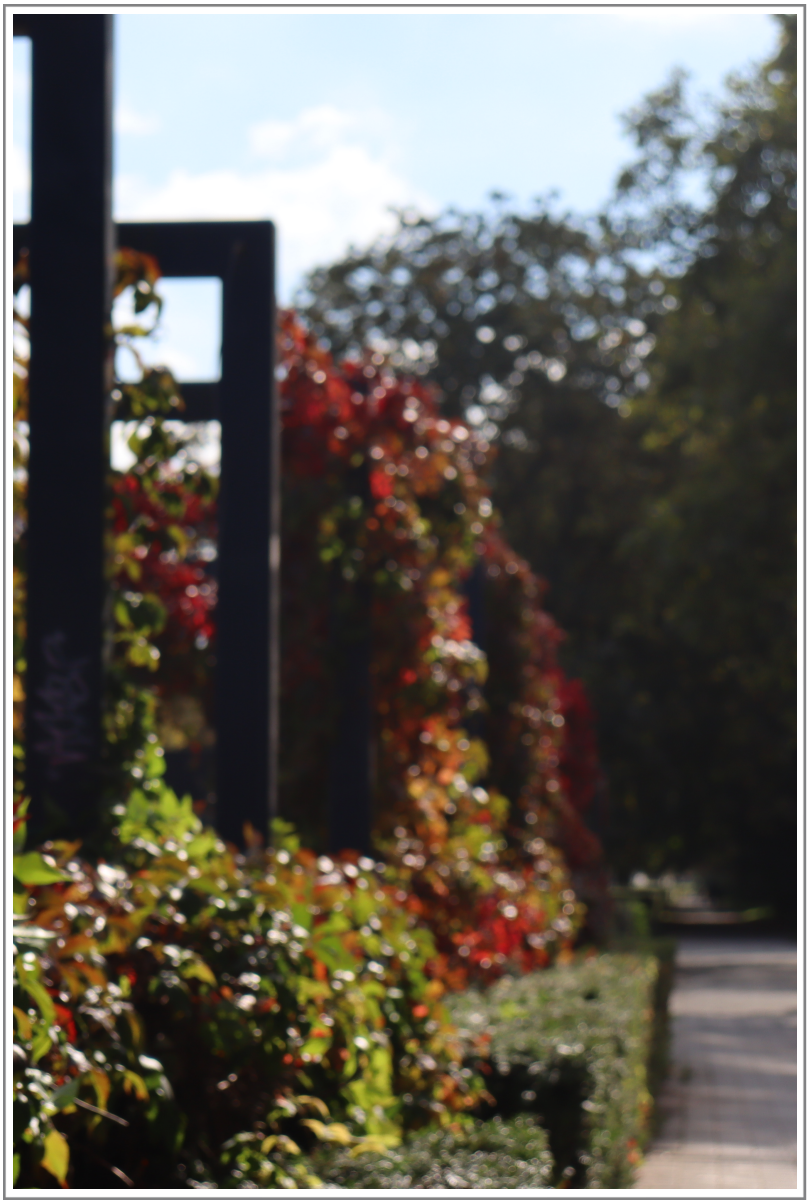
You're reading a book by me and are still surprised I snuck poetry into it? Two out of six books I wrote are literally solely focused on poetry. If this surprised you in any way, that's on you.

Here is a poem:
'When the mirror breaks,
I won't ever miss it.
The cracks are definitive proof,
that there's life after shit.'

Here is another:
'They say to love is to live
And I believe that it's true.
Because I feel I'm alive,
whenever I hear from you.'

These aren't the greatest poems I've ever written, but if you're trying to guess what this book has in store for you; the poems will be very telling.

A little bit of shit, a little bit of love.
And isn't that what life's all about?



The Art Of Joking Around

It's a remarkable achievement nowadays to simply get through the day. In this digital age, we get confronted by so many horrors of the world. Our day-to-day lives tend to become repetitive now and again. It makes us wonder why all of us still wake up in the morning. Getting out of bed to live a clouded life sounds like a drag. There must be a reason we're doing it everyday, besides our crippling fear of homelessness.

Well, there is a reason, but it's not the motivational one you're expecting. We all have jobs to do, food to cook and armpits to clean vigorously. However, there is a somewhat motivational reason we get through these days! It's comedy.

Life would be so different if we never took the time out of our day to watch a silly video or make a questionable joke around your buddies. The whole reason my job (which is filled with so much insecurity surrounding the future of it) is still fun to go to is 'joking around'.