

ジャスト・ミー・アブズ

Just Me

Abz

## Dear Reader

Dear Reader,

My name is something that my parents call "A name that fits you", and for a long time it took me a while to accept what I was given. I didn't like my name because I didn't choose it and because I didn't like the way it sounded. But I am here right now in this instant moment, telling you guys my name with pride along with my last name. My name is Abigail Alcantara but you guys can call me Abby or Abs. I am a Female and my pronouns are She/Her. I was born and raised in New York, The Bronx, I proudly come from Hispanic Parents and I myself am proudly Hispanic.

My magazine is obviously one and only because I made it, and because it's all about me and no one else. You can honestly expect that I tried my best to give as much detail as I could. I don't expect you guys to know me right off the bat, but I do expect you to get some obvious details about me atleast. I also want to warn you that I honestly feel like I am not "ALL THAT" I am Just Me and there's really nothing BIG about Just Me, that's why I gave my magazine a clean and simple name because I am Just Me and there's nothing more above that.

I really hope you guys read this and finish off with a reaction. It can honestly be any reaction because I also can't expect people to feel a certain way about this | magazine. Each and every one of you are honestly unique in your own way, no one is the same and that is one of the many purposes of my magazine.

By,

because if there's something that irritates me is **ONE LITTLE MISTAKE!**  
Especially when it's a very meaningful drawing to me! And when I say I get  
irritated with one little mistake, I actually mean it! I can't stand even one  
little dash going over another part of the drawing! I know it might seem  
extra but I like to be strict with myself because I feel like I make more  
progress when I do that. And I don't mind starting from scratch, because to  
me every drawing is a journey and a struggle.

I learned that throughout my experience as an artist, that work isn't  
going to do itself and that you have to try to do things even if it means  
staying up endless nights with your eyes slowly drowning into an endless  
dream. I know it seems concerning but when it comes to things that actually  
matter to me I feel like I **NEED TO DO MY BEST!** Because I can and I know I  
can.

## Sailor Intelligence

If there's one passion that I have that's distinct from others is that, I know Sailor Moon from top to bottom. I know how to recommend Sailor Moon and I am a very nerdy fan because I always check for daily updates and so much more. To be honest, if someone were to ask me how I got so interested in Sailor Moon, I would give them a complete trip to the past! Just like right now! It all started back in 2020 when we were all stuck at home. Me and my new 7th grade friends wanted to have fun with our profile pictures, so I would go to pinterst and find some very cool matching profile pictures. Until I came across these specific pictures ...



And I really fell in love with the art style and even with the cute characters. So I started investigating and I found out that the characters in this picture were called Usagi/Sailor Moon/Princess Serenity and Mamoru/Tuxedo Mask/Prince Endymion from the 90's anime "Sailor Moon".

That's when I started to watch the anime and episode by episode I became an even bigger fan! But when I was finished with it I was pretty sad until ... I came

across the rebooted Sailor Moon from 2016, "Sailor Moon Crystal" and I swore to myself that I would never EVER see it because of how bad I thought it looked. Until ... My summer of 2022 I was scrolling through Netflix and right away they started recommending "Sailor Moon Crystal", so I got curious and I started watching the first episode.

I was pretty sad still because I was so used to the old Sailor Moon art style and Sailor Moon Crystal was more detailed and it made the characters look like grown-ups instead of teens. After I saw Sailor Moon Crystal I then watched Sailor Moon Eternal which made me feel happier because it gave the characters a less detailed art style but it made them look young and it was a big improvement, but then things went downhill of course when I was done with part 1 and 2 of the movie. I wanted more and more! Because the original Sailor Moon was longer than just 3 seasons and 2 movie parts, the original anime gave you variable seasons and movies just for you to understand what was going on. But of course let's say instead of starting in episode one, you started at episode 20... Well guess what! You would've still understood what was going on because in almost every episode the characters automatically say everything that's been going on for no reason! It's stupid but in a good way!

Another thing I don't like about Sailor Moon Crystal is that it didn't include important parts of the original anime that made Sailor Moon a good Story! But if there's something I can't complain about is the fact that the music was amazing! Every song and every word that was put into the music made everything shine brighter than the moon. For example, my favorite songs are, Moon Pride, New Moon, Otome No Susume, Eien Dake Ga Futari Wo Kakeru, and Eternal Eternity.

**Last but not least, I found out last month that Sailor Moon Cosmos is coming out which is like THE ENDING of the reboot and it will even mark the ending of the manga, which made me depressed because I didn't want it to end that fast! I just hope the creator makes it a good ending because if not- I will sue the creators for not giving their best for such a popular anime that many people loved and adored for years!**

**To end this I just want to say 1 thing . . .**

**Sailor Moon along with all the other Sailor Moon Series and Movies, are a true BOMB and if there's one thing I would complain about, is the horrible english dubbing that they did back in the day for the original anime!**

**So . . . yea, this is my passion and I hope you guys enjoyed it and if you didn't read this I honestly would understand why :)**

## Art Rivals

A moment in my Educational History that shaped my identity as a learner, was when I was recently 14 years-old and 2 months and a half later we had a school yearbook cover competition. The competition was just to simply get your drawing on the yearbook cover if you won. But it had to be based on the quote we were given, "Life is meant to have meaning and to be lived with purpose". It might've not meant a lot to people but for me and many other artists it was a big deal! But, the problem was most of the people who were competing were my best friends like Ada and Antionette.

It was a problem because I usually don't like competing with them. I felt like we were all good artists individually, for example Ada was the type of artist who liked to include a lot of detail and she would even put little easter eggs in her drawing to make them fun!, Antionette's art style was more about funny stuff and she really loved to make memes but in her own way which made her stand out and made her unique, and Me...well I feel like I don't really have a specific art style I always try to do a bit of everything because I find it hard and challenging. But I felt like there was a lot of pressure between us due to this competition because we all wanted to win but at the same time we didn't.

We were all individually doing something extreme, and we weren't talking for 2-3 weeks and I didn't really like that because I wanted us to get along. Because of this competition I almost felt like it was tearing apart our friendship that I almost felt like quitting. We were super used to doing projects together and giving each other feedback and having eachothers backs as artists, but our science

teacher Mr. Wagenborg, who was in charge of the competition, told us that our drawing had to come from us, not from others.

Finally, the due date came right around the corner and I was extremely exhausted because PSA'S were coming and while I was doing the yearbook cover I was also finishing a science project, a book report, and I was studying for an Algebra test that was on the same day as the due date for the cover!

I submitted my cover and then I just had to wait for the cover votings to commence. 5 days past, and class by class Mr. Wagenborg called every student to get up and go to his desk and vote for the cover. Since names were called by alphabetical order I was first, and I was shocked by the drawing my friends have done. Ada made a very nice detailed drawing of an eagle representing our country/Nation I think? Antionette made a very cool and funny drawing of her character saying something about meanings and purposes. Meanwhile my drawing was a city representing everything surrounding us and even we all have purposes and meanings. There were some other people that I didn't recognize who entered the competition and I can't really remember what they drew.

At the end of the day, I ended up winning... yay... I was proud of myself but at the same time all I could think of was the reaction of my friends but it looks like they took the news amazingly! They were happy for my success and I was happy for them too because later on Ada got accepted to CAPA and Antionette got into the WINS program in Drexel University. From this I learned that I need to know when to be competitive and when to not be. But I'm sure there are going to be a million times in which a situation like this is going to happen and no one will be there for me. Like my favorite quote says, "The flow of time waits for no one, It won't patiently stand by as you grieve." By Kyojuro Rengoku.



## **Bucket List**

**The things I really want to do in life are simple. I don't want to do too many things in life nor too little because I don't want to exhaust myself nor bore myself.**

**I want to be Successful!**

**(I bet everyone including me wants to be a success in life)**

**I really wanna visit South Korea**

**(I'm a big K-pop fan and a I am a fan of the country itself too)**

**I wanna go to Virginia**

**(I wanna visit their historical places!)**

**I really want to try SAKURA MOCHI!**

**(I don't know why but they look really yummy and kind of fancy-)**

**I really want to grow a SAKURA TREE one day!**

**(They look so pretty and they represent "A time of renewal" and much more!)**

**I want a Red-RINGED PARAKEET!**

**(I have seen Tik-Tok's about these species doing cool things and they're so cute!)**

## Love & LoveBirds

Lovebirds also known as Agapornis, part of the Psittaculidae which is a family of birds "containing Old World parrots". These birds are honestly as sweet as their title! I can assure you that, because I myself have been an owner of this species for a while.

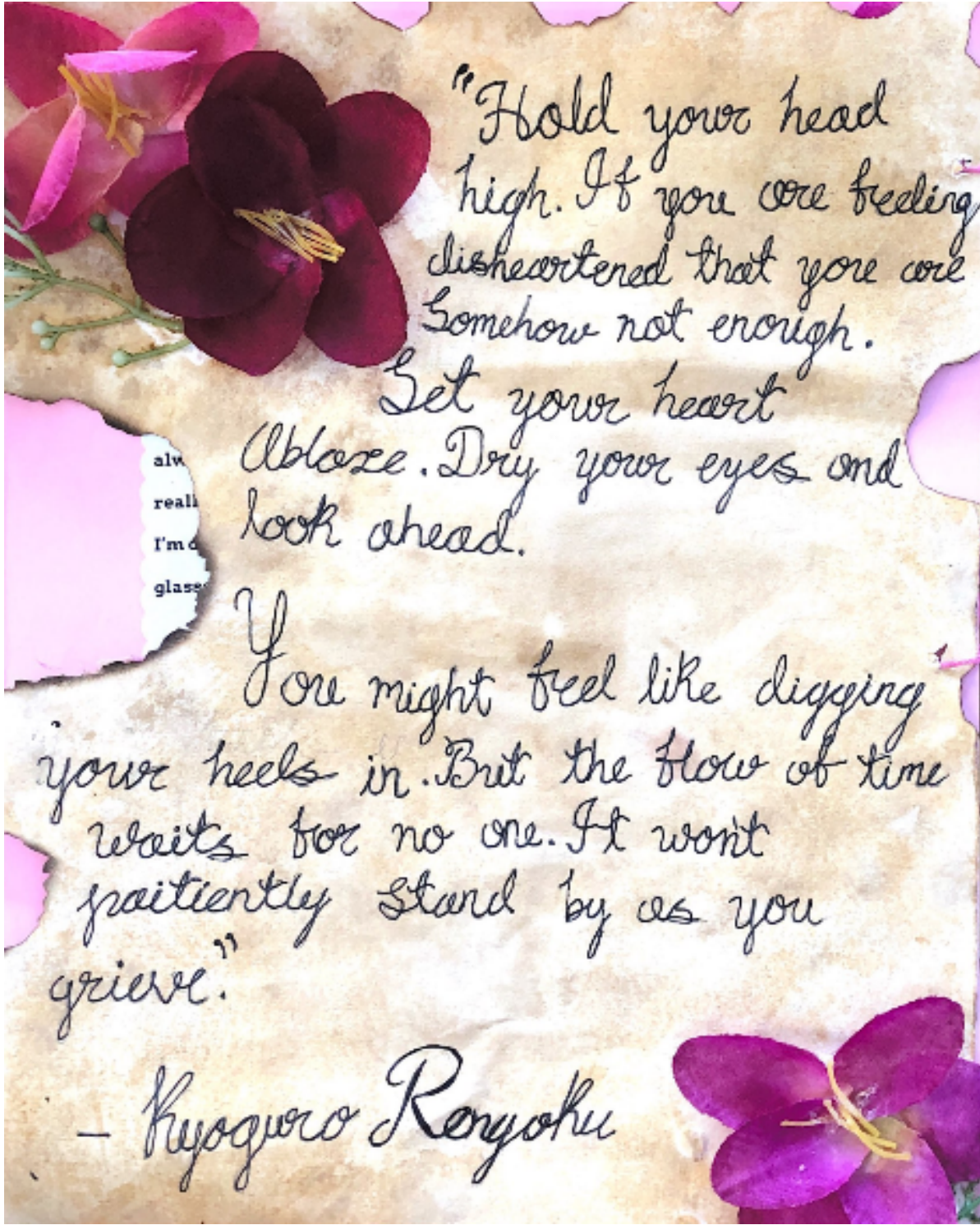
When I was five years old I had 2 Lutino Lovebirds. Unfortunately 1 of them that I named Mike died in 2020 and the other named Holly died in 2022, due to the cause of old age. In 2020 I got another lovebird that was another species named Rosy-faced Lovebird. I named that bird Kiwi to accompany the Lutino Lovebird that was left alone (Holly). In 2022 when Holly died I then later got another Rosy-faced Lovebird who I named Honey, a well trained bird to accompany Kiwi after mine and his Lost.

On September 5, 2022 I went to school and came back home to notice that their cage was open and both Kiwi and Honey were nowhere to be seen, and I went outside to check if they were there and Kiwi was in my neighbors tree! With Honey being nowhere to be seen. I remember being there 3-4 hours outside convincing Kiwi to come down, but he was desperately looking for Honey who was lost. It then started raining and he left and I was sad because I really missed him and Honey. It was September 6, 2022 and I came home exhausted from school and arriving home I noticed that my bird's cage was covered with a towel and as I uncovered it my mom told me that after she dropped me off at school my grandma heard a chirp in the backyard. And when they went to check, Honey was on one of the electric poles chirping. That's when my mom started shouting at Honey to come home and she

grabbed her cage and pointed at it so that Honey could see where to land. Honey didn't think twice and quickly flew to the cage. They took Honey inside, gave her food and water and noticed that she had been hurt. She was hit in her head and had lost some feathers. I remember taking Honey out of her cage and kissing her because she and I have always gotten along since the day I got her.

Ever since that day I don't remember a time she hasn't been separated from me other than School. Every time I use the restroom the first thing she does is fly up the stairs and waits for me to finish and every time I wake up or go to sleep she always lifts the food door of her cage asking to get out to say goodbye. She also really enjoys going on my head, my shoulders, and she loves bothering me when I'm doing Homework. She pecks my ears and starts climbing on my hair and glasses, she even starts biting my papers.

I honestly love her with all my heart and I'm 100% that she loves me too. I'm also 100% sure if you dedicate time, love, and patience to your Lovebird they will love you back with all their little hearts too!



"Hold your head  
high. If you are feeling  
disheartened that you are  
Somehow not enough.

Set your heart  
Ablaze. Dry your eyes and  
look ahead.

You might feel like digging  
your heels in. But the flow of time  
waits for no one. It won't  
patiently stand by as you  
grieve."

- Kyoguro Ronyoku