

Entry Title: Childhood

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Entry:

I would run, stumbling through the froth and glide onto my pink boogie board.

The water was so cold that it held tight to my skin.

With my sister smiling by my side we would splash and play for hours catching every ride we could.

Those waves that merely touched dad's knees,

bowled us over with a simple nudge.

We threw sand, ate sand, built with sand, studied sand, and rolled in sand,

as we let our senses lead us on the path of discovery.

With no care in the world our young minds grew,

and with our heads and our hearts floating in space

we practised knowledge we could never forget.

Memories eternally proud and strong,

created the friends of forever,

and tied the ropes of our bond with a knot so tight

only air would flow between us.

No challenge would leave a dull mark,

rather tested our every belief.

The words of those we trusted would mould the clay within our heads,

leaving prints as hard as stone.

Deep within the closet or on the trampoline

we would entertain the masses.

A doctor with a problem or an explorer trekking through the jungle.

Our make believe made us believe.

The nonsense was real, but so was the gain

and by the end of the day hundreds of lessons had been learnt.

Exercising the concentration required to perform an operation

or the nerve it took to hunt down a tiger.

Each no less valuable than the next,

a fire fuelled by fun, and furious play.

You cannot jeopardize the quality of a childhood.

No individual deserves to lack the richness of experience it provides.

Through naive eyes we learn so much,

and through naive eyes we see everything.

When it is rushed or sacrificed a scar is left,

like a virus breaching through every aspect of life.

How do we create if we've never imagined the impossible?

How do we love if we have never been held?

How do we grow strong if we have never fallen down?

The wholeness of childhood is the scaffolding of our lives to come.

By the end we are no experts,

but a love we have formed for the unknown and the adventure of the path we are on.

Who we are and who we become shows hints of our childhood.

We don't turn and leave what we learned

rather we unlock it with every door.

The choices and the challenges show no sign of fading,

so alas all we can do

is look to the past and find deep within,

the strength of the child inside.