



## 86 WISHES FOR A NEW DAWN

*For a peaceful ease back into those nights,  
since for now it may be restless,  
a thundering restless.*

*Art of recognition can be shown through  
passion and holy light.*

*Pure pure light is joyous.  
Bring a close family together  
in the light of a new dawn.*

*a collective poem by 229 students from Paradise Junior & Senior High School, in memoriam of the 86 victims  
of the Camp Fire, in collaboration with artist Anna Sergeeva*

I wish they didn't leave;  
leave me here to write a poem,

a poem of light,  
and of dark.

I wish I would've known ahead of time.  
I wish there was a way to turn back time.  
I wish there was a way to change this life.

I wish there was a way to talk to everyone who went away,  
to talk to the ones so far away.

I wish the burns will wash away, leaving only faint scars of yesterday.

I wish we didn't have to go through so much hurt just to feel the same.

I wish when we smile we didn't have to smile through so much pain.

I wish others knew I went through the same.  
I wish tomorrow will hurt less than today.  
I wish that everything will be OK.

I wish for the puzzles of people's lives to come together  
back again.

I wish the flames didn't rip people's lives apart,  
they pick up the pieces  
but never find them all.

*You can get through it but there is still  
a hole  
in your heart.*

I wish I could fix Paradise;  
for Paradise to be paradise again.

I wish to drive my truck in the small town I grew up in and spent my life,  
and not cry.

I wish I could go home home,  
that my home still felt like a home.

*I close my eyes and it feels real again, but when I open them it feels like  
nothing, indescribable feeling of*

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I wish the people, plants, and animals were as prevalent as they once were.  
I wish the buildings were still standing tall and strong as the pines once were.  
I wish the peace and calm of living was the way it was before.

I wish I didn't lose everything in the fire,  
I wish I had saved more things from my home,

I wish I still had a home.

I wish that the people who lived before us didn't leave us this awful mess,  
that people would realize that we are slowly destroying our planet.  
that animals would stop going extinct because of humans.  
that global warming stopped.  
that these fires around the world stop.  
that it wasn't getting worse.  
that we would realize that we are the cause,  
but also the solution.

*We cannot change the past but we can change the future.  
We need to move on through the flames and out the other side to our future.*

*Surely if we stood beside one another,  
hand in hand, we'd be strong forever,  
beneath the night's sky and staring into the morning sun.*

I wish the resilience of the community will help build a strength no one can break.

I wish that my home gets rebuilt soon, a new home with my own bedroom.  
I wish that the dim glow in my old room would shine in my new room  
that has yet to come.

I wish we still had money.  
I wish for some decent looking clothes and a car.  
I wish that my dog didn't die, that I could have all of my animals back.  
I wish my dad finds a job so that we won't have to struggle to pay the bills.

I wish for a stable home,  
that my family hadn't gone through the trauma that broke them.  
that we got along and didn't argue so much.  
that we can be safe and loving again.  
that we can spend more time together.

I wish my friends who I love didn't move away,  
that my best friend moved back home today.

I wish that time would pass and I could be free, that soon enough I will be happy.  
Genuinely happy without forcing myself into happiness.

I wish I knew what I wanted.

I wish I could explain how I feel,

to explain these  
mixed  
up  
emotions,  
to share these feelings.

I wish to be myself, not someone I'm not  
without being called weird or stupid.

I wish that the stereotypes the world has placed on my heavy shoulders  
would be lifted away, that I could just get dressed in the morning  
without worrying so much about what other people say.

I wish I wouldn't overthink all the time,  
that my frenetic brain could finally drift to sleep  
and relax my nerves.

I wish the world around me could crumble away  
and leave silence in its rubble.

I wish I had everybody in the world's strength combined in me.

I wish to speak up this year, to be trusted.  
to be braver.  
to be wise. to be kind.

I wish to be noticed.

I wish to inspire people  
with my past and with my words  
and with who I am as a person.

*Even though times might be hard, I will stand up and push myself forward.  
I'm scared of what people say, I'm scared of what they see.  
Being afraid of being seen, but being alone is not something that I own.*

I wish for all to live in support of others,  
for everyone to choose peace,  
like fireflies in the sky,  
flying so high and bright, unbothered  
living their best life.

I wish hate crimes will stop,  
that all races, genders, religions, and sexual identities  
will be accepted.

I wish that everyone was equal in this world,  
that everyone had a say in how things unfold.

I wish our minds would come together as one,  
that at the first sense of danger,  
not all would run.

I wish the world would learn how to communicate,  
that if you and I come together,  
the rest would participate.

I wish people would start caring about our Earth.

I wish people would notice that money is paper that fades but love is everlasting.

I wish that education, water, and food was provided worldwide to every human.

I wish for all families to be together.  
I wish for health and growth on and for the Earth.  
I wish for a peaceful future with less pollution,

a future where my kids can have kids.

I wish for blue,  
clear blue skies, blue lakes, blue oceans.

I wish for yellow,  
yellow flowers, yellow suns.

I wish for red,  
red hearts, red roses, redwoods.

I wish for black,  
black nights, full of stars.

I wish for white,  
white clouds, white stars, white moons.

I wish for green,  
green grass, green mountains, green fruits,  
green Earth.

rise  
I wish to see the sun over  
a mountain,  
streams of sunlight painting my body,  
a warmth I had long forgotten.

I wish to see the wonders of the world,  
to climb Mount Everest,  
to swim in tropical seas,  
to be in a Love's arms.

I wish for love,  
love that will last, last forever  
and a day.

I wish to float through clouds,  
fly through stars,  
run through fields with you,  
letting the colors flow through us, around us,  
as we glow in the arms of the moon and the sun and the sky.

I wish you would hold me in your arms tonight,  
without you, I don't feel quite right,  
I need you to tell me everything will be alright.

In the dark I see you.

In the light I look for you.

*You are strong, you have been through so much  
and no one should've gone through that.  
You are unbelievably amazing, you're indescribable.  
Everything that happens, happens for a reason, you see your new friends?  
What if this didn't happen, where would you be today?  
Cherish every moment you have,  
live your life, you never know what happens next,  
but believe me, you can get through it.*

*Life goes on and it is beautiful.*