

AMDG?

Right now this poem is a waste of time.

I should be studying for my AP exam on Monday  
instead of speaking in rhythm and rhyme.

In fact, I hate rhyming and timing, constant trying to squeeze second together  
make room for  
school  
dance  
friends  
sleep  
relax

*sleep  
pushed  
to the  
side*

But these days I'm studying stressing studying worrying studying  
I feel lost lonely so I force myself to smile with friends  
look happy  
laugh like I don't give a damn  
only realizing that I lost all the damns I gave for myself.  
What happened to the cheerful little freshman who learned for the sake of learning  
not for the sake of ineedtogetintoivyleague-ing  
I scrubbed her off and down  
the  
drain  
into

the ocean of useless thoughts and unfulfilled expectations.  
I dreamt of high school as a time full of community, support, growth  
community of competition and comparison  
support of stereotypes and stigmas  
growth of GPAs and gossip.

I feel like I work all the time but honestly my worry seizes 90% of my energy  
sucking it up viciously  
skin's worsening muscles weakening eyes deteriorating  
everything's a fat ugly mess.

Cramming my identity into 650 words  
talented passionate intelligent  
leader writer dancer

*scared nervous confused  
fearful of what I'm becoming.*

6 hours a day slaving at school 6 more drowning in homework yet  
so many questions left unanswered  
why am I taking AP Calc BC if I don't enjoy math  
why am I retesting the SAT just to gain 20 points  
why am I skipping dance class to listen to college reps drone on and on and on and on  
why does the girl in the corner playing Crossy Road have an A

*why has my B exploded into bad bitter brutal broken*

Wait I remember  
every time I look at her I see my dream college selecting her over me  
just check out the Family Connection college admissions dot graphs  
connecting my family on a mission to one up the beautiful optimistic playful

*girl in the corner  
that was me once.*

That girl probably would have savored and delighted in writing this poem

this girl is going to Crack the AP Chemistry Exam: 2015 Edition

*AMDG.*

Ally Han '16