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## Birthday

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# Birthday

**Author Bio**

May Lonergan is a sophomore majoring in Psychology.

# Birthday

MAY LONERGAN

Congratulations,  
It's the day you've been waiting for.  
All 365 days have led to this,  
A celebration  
Of you.

As a naive child,  
You eagerly counted the days  
Until your very own  
Special day.

Back then,  
You reminded all your classmates  
When your special day would arrive.  
It would be your time.  
A day dedicated to you.  
The teacher would sing  
And a bowling birthday party  
Would bring you  
New presents and giggles and  
The respect  
Of being another year  
Older.

With the cheers and claps of  
Those you love,  
You would proudly  
Puff your cheeks  
With all your might,  
To blow out the dancing flames,  
Magical wishes,  
That you actually believed  
Could come true.

You would stuff your mouth

With squishy chocolate cake  
 Layered with extra creamy frosting.  
 Ignoring the sticky sweetness that  
 Clung to your wiggling little fingers.  
 It was always just the way you liked it.  
 Delicious.

You would greedily rip  
 Open the pile of presents  
 Your mother spent hours wrapping.  
 Tearing into the packaging,  
 As if passing time would steal  
 The gifts from your eager grasp.

When did the excitement end?  
 Today is the day.  
*Your* day has finally come.  
 Yet  
 You told not a single soul at work.  
 No one sang, or hugged, or laughed.  
 And that present your mother sent you  
 Sits unopened in the console of your car.  
 And apparently, your favorite chocolate cake  
 Has too many calories in it anyway.

When did becoming older lose its fun?  
 When did you stop being a kid?

No matter what you do,  
 Time will fly by  
 And you will age.  
 All you can do,  
 And must do,  
 Is accept the change  
 And welcome the new memories.  
 It's a birthday,  
 Not a funeral.  
 Act like it.