

# *Scribbles and Jots*

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Issue 9

## The Art of Being Amazing

I've been thinking a lot lately about what being amazing means. Quite a number of recent events and interactions are feeding into these thoughts. How? Well, with exactly the opposite reasons that they should.

There is a lot of self doubt out there. On top of that, there are far too many people who will tell you that you are doing what you do all wrong for no real reason other than because they can. Between the inner critic and the outer judgments it can be incredibly difficult to remember how truly special each of us really is.

Inside of you is something that no one else on this entire planet has or has ever had. YOU. Your experiences, abilities, interests, and yes, even imperfections all add up to an individual who is completely unique in all of time, space, and creation. That, my dears, is more than enough to qualify you to wear the word "Amazing!"

Don't ever forget that no matter what the mean voice (inside or outside) might say.

So, what do you do about your amazing? That's easy. You stretch it! You reach for accomplishments that are just beyond your grasp and when you catch those, you reach again.

If you keep doing this over and over again, you will spend your entire life growing into who you are at any given moment. Along the way, you will accept that there are things that aren't for you. That's okay. They are someone else's amazing. Let them take care of those. You just worry about bringing what only you can bring into this world. Bring it in with joy! That is absolutely enough!

# Outside the Box

Give yourself a surprise. I promise, it will be one that you will enjoy - if you let yourself. But it takes some serious bravery. Dig down in there and find that first. Now, pull that bravery out and wear it like a super hero cape. Ready? Yeah, you are. Here we go!

Your mission is to do something creative that you are absolutely certain you cannot do well. No cheating now. You know what I'm talking about. It's that thing that has been fluttering around in your heart that makes you just a little scared. The one that you know is going to turn out looking like a hot mess when its finished. THAT one.

Why? Because the biggest failure in creativity is to not even try. Worse, to let our fear of failing keep us from learning and growing. It does not matter if you don't do as well as you wanted to the first time - or the fifth - or the hundredth - or ever.

Each and every time you make an effort toward learning to do something new, you get better at it. You also get braver. That combination of practice and fearlessness may be just what you need to accomplish a project or job that you once would have thought was impossible.

**How will you know unless you try?** **YES!**

Give yourself permission to try.

Why not?

What if?

*What if instead of saying you can't do something, you did it anyway?*



Be creative

Make something using only the following items:

**Terra Cotta Flower Pot**  
**Finger Paint**  
**Sponge**

# Opinion Time

Winter  
Spring  
Summer  
Fall



## First Draft = Fun

Did you know that the first draft of any story is really just you telling that story to yourself? That means that you can tell it any way you like. You can write sloppy and use the wrong words. You can even spell them incorrectly. You can let your characters ramble on with nonsense for five solid paragraphs that even you don't understand. And the best part is that you don't have to let anyone EVER see that tangled web of confusion. Nope. Nobody other than you needs to read it. So, write like the wind! Get it all out! Everything can be tucked into place and smoothed out during the edit.

rite a sentence about your hand.

## What if... They Hate It?

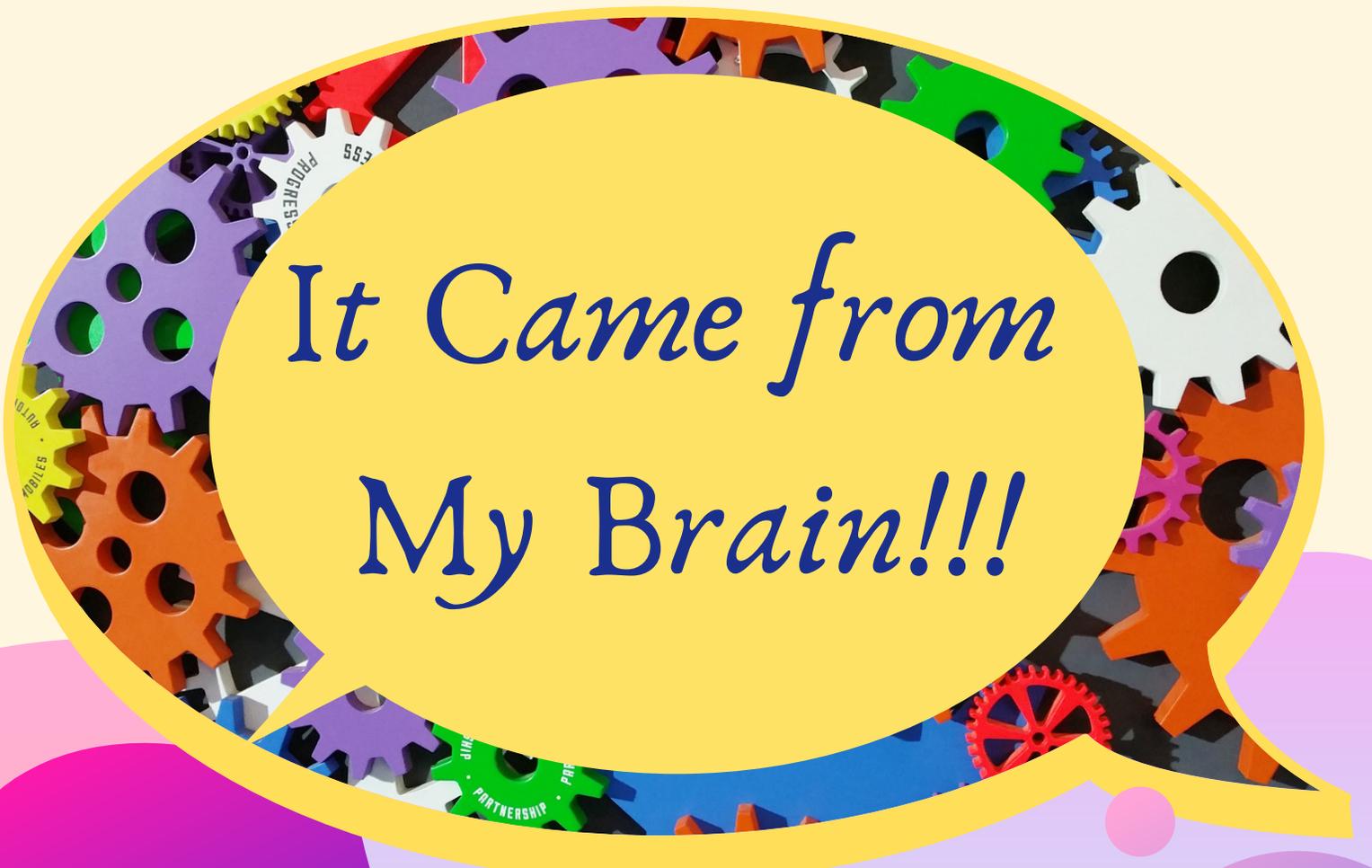
The words you write are not for everyone. We all think differently - and that's a good thing! Some people will not enjoy your story. Some might even really dislike it. You will not get an "A" on every assignment. You will not win every contest. Your story will not touch everyone who reads it in a way that has a positive meaning.

Guess what. It's OKAY!

The important thing is that you write the story that YOU need to write. Give it the attention it needs to be the best it can be. Research the parts that need to be accurate. Be as honest as possible without purposely setting out to hurt others just because you can. Do your best. Then stand behind it.

Not everything you write will find a home anywhere but within your own heart. As long as it sits there comfortably, you can be proud to have written it.

*Prompt:*  
The aliens  
looked nothing  
like we  
thought they  
would.



*It Came from  
My Brain!!!*

Be the best  
**YOU**  
that you can be!