

# To Hannah:

Are we really made of star stuff? It is hard to tell in the darkness  
Sometimes it just takes a bright light to realize it's true  
Your light will remind us we are cosmic, always.

The way you taught us to care for ourselves and those around us is a spirit I learned from you and will always carry with me. Your kindness and warmth have shaped me more than you know, and they will always have a place in my heart.

Your presence has touched more lives than you may realize. You've given so much of yourself and with unwavering courage. Thank you for sharing your story with us - your lessons, your memory, your smile, and your love will remain with us forever.

You bring a uniqueness in how you can be firm and tender. Respectful and provocative. Practical and subtle. You are bringing this until the end.

When I think of you, the words that emerge are delicate yet powerful beyond measure. Holding those two traits together is a rare ability. Thank you for teaching me the power in delicacy. You are in my heart forever.

You taught us empathy. First for ourselves, so that we can have it for others. Thank you for sharing your gifts and helping us to better understand and care for ourselves and our communities. May you find peace in whatever comes next.

Hannah, you are such a gift. You opened my eyes to the importance of self knowledge and inquiry as a changemaker. That unless we acknowledge and navigate our internal chaos, we can't truly support the chaotic world around us. It changed the trajectory of my career and my life. I am forever grateful to have crossed paths with you in this lifetime.

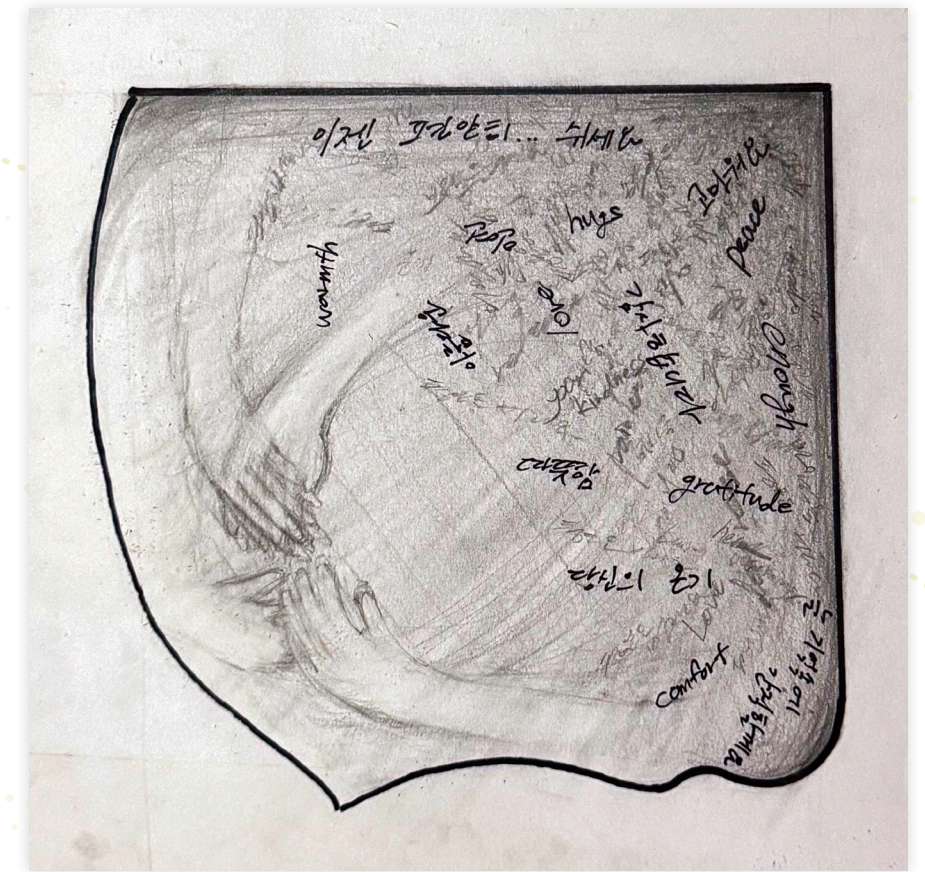
You have brought such light and grace to this world. Thank you for all you have given us, it will be cherished forever.

I'll never forget how you made us feel anger run inside our bellies like horses. You taught us how to be present in our bodies and how to feel our feelings - lessons that are hard, profound and life-changing. You have cared so deeply. You have shown so much courage. And you have held so many hands, lovingly in this life. I'm now holding your hand from afar. Thank you for giving us the most precious gifts.

Walking into DSI that first year was terrifying, I felt like I came from the wrong place, with the wrong skills, and my years in school were way in the rear view mirror. You centered me in my reality, in my body, in my place in the world. You did that for all of us. You gave us a sense of ourselves and our purpose and led us gently towards where we were meant to be. Learning of your ALS and your decision to transition was heartbreaking, but looking at the notes you and Marc and all those who love you have put together - you are teaching us how to say goodbye in the fullest way. Teaching us and guiding us to the end. I wish you peace and joy and freedom from pain as you pass. I'm so grateful to have known you.

You were a lighthouse for all of us in the storm that is arriving in NYC and beginning one of the most important phases of our lives. You gave us guidance and wisdom to cultivate respect and empathy from within ourselves toward others and start shaping our purpose. Your words will always resonate, echoing through every moment of our lives. We will always be grateful and will live by the foundations you gave us. Today, more than ever, you will always be our lighthouse in the fog.

For a long time, I believed that thinking was the only way—the best way—to move through the world. In a way, somehow, that mindset is what led me to DSI. But looking back, my body had been leaving subtle clues for years, whispering for me to stop and simply feel. It wasn't until New York City, in your class, that someone finally showed me how to feel and reconnect those forgotten wires. That was the moment my mind finally began to flow with my body. Today, I may be considered an adult, but I've made the conscious choice to never let go of my inner child. I feel like I'm thriving, and I owe so much of that to the beautiful randomness of the universe—the kind of luck that introduces me to people like you. From the Andes to whatever cosmic pull brought us together on 21st Street, I'm just grateful.



## With Eternal Love DSI SVA Class 2016

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|----------|-----------|
| Alex     | Lauren    |
| Amer     | Maia      |
| Azmina   | Manolo    |
| Barbara  | Margarita |
| Bruno    | Nazli     |
| Caroline | Sultana   |
| Claire   | Rinat     |
| David    | Rodrigo   |
| Emily    | Yinman    |
| Kara     | Yena      |
| Kyle     |           |
| Grace    |           |
| Hannah   |           |
| Ivan     |           |

January 30, 2026