Graduation Day

Bonniejean Alford

College of DuPage

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Graduation Day
Bonniejean Alford

The culmination of one life phase,
built on all that came before.
A most real and true
final transition into adulthood.
Late nights and no sleep,
led to this moment,
yet they cannot compare
to the amazingness
of experiences still to come.

Excitement overshadows all else,
as happy dances through the day.
Smiles sing the joy of work done well.
Lessons learned,
both in the classroom and not,
shape the soul; Prepare the character.

Promises of a future shine in the eyes,
with painted hats and family gathered.
A new day awaits;
new challenges to overcome.
Tomorrow arrives in the present,
with the path of knowledge yet to unfold;
for there remains so much to learn;
much more to suffer and enjoy.

But, today, graduation honors
the facts and figures
that still swim in the head.
Don’t shed that which is learned in haste, 
for some must remain, 
as the foundation of everything 
life is meant to hold.

Go forth, spread your wings. 
Risk everything.

**Rebecca in Human Resources**  
Ronda Crawford

Dearest Rebecca, 

I am writing regarding the reference you requested, I was deeply flattered that you thought of me. You not only remembered my difficult to pronounce name but when you spelled it correctly, I was touched. Just think after 5 years of working side by side on the same team you finally got it right. As you would say, “gold star for Becks today”. I want to apologize for the delay but I was concerned my punctuation might be a bit too aggressive, so I wanted to start my letter with a trigger warning. I know all you’ve had to endure with the hostile commas in text messages and emails, especially after that horrible parentheses incident with Rodriguez. Some may call it hysteria, but if it wasn’t for you we might have been the victims of covertly abusive syntax. No matter what anyone else says, it was obvious you were heartbroken that Miguel had to be let go. And just between you and me, I don’t think you were ever shown the proper appreciation for that act of heroism and self-sacrifice. I would like to take this opportunity to step out the box and let you know that some of us will never, ever forget you or any of the many policies you personally spearheaded and helped implement.