



## ***Lost in myself***

Derrick Patton is a 18 year old who's having millions of problems in his daily life. He lost his dad by a dreadful heart attack. Him, his mother, sister and brother live in a homeless shelter because his mother couldn't afford the apartment. Before his father passed, he had a better standard of living.

His siblings attend to a private school, and he didn't go to college, but his friends that he had in high school, wasn't speaking to him anymore since he fell off his feet. The owner of the

shelter, Joe gave him a journal. He didn't know why he gave it to him, but he took it anyways. Joe said, "This can be useful one day." Derrick felt like someone actually cared for him while he was there.

Once he got to the shelter, he went in to the bathroom, washed his face with some refreshing, cold water. He then looked at himself in the mirror and noticed that he just wanted to give up his life. After his father passed, everything changed. While no one was watching, he went into Joe's drawer and noticed he had a gun and knife. He picked up the gun and hid it in his pants. He walked through the house like it was nothing. It was time for lights out, and Derrick acted like he was going to bed as everyone else. After everyone was settled in bed, he sneaked to the

restroom. From not knowing, his mom was in the kitchen having a drink. He cried and cried and looked at himself in mirror once again. He wondered why he is so poor, he wondered why his mom wont work to pay the bills in the apartment. He took the gun. Pointed it to his head and the door flies wide open! His mom, caught him having the weapon to his head. He fell crying into his mothers arms. A few weeks after that, he was put in a suicide prevention center. Derrick was in there for the past weeks now and he realized what he was trying to do was definitely wrong. After they got back to the shelter, he noticed that the journal was something that he could use for a good benefit. He started writing down his thoughts and everything he was feeling. One day he dropped his notebook on the sidewalk

walking to the shelter. The young lady that picked it up started to read the journal. She just simply loved what she saw. She then rushed home and showed it immediately to her dad. Her dad, Shelton, is an author and he was impressed! The journal was given to her dad's boss for him to examine.

At the homeless shelter, Joe got a call from Shelton Blue's Writers Co. Shelton wanted Derrick to come read his poems to people around the world while working for him. Derrick couldn't believe the news same as his mother and siblings. Derrick Albert Patton is now known for his poems and speeches while making lots of money. He also teaches kids and young adults about how to persevere and life lessons. He helped his family get back their feet and he is very successful now.

***-Kilah F.~Missouri City Middle School***

