We live here because we love.

We live here because in our being is the core sensation of empathy—if only we’d listen harder.

We live here because our bodies are all of a kind that bleed and hurt and break the same.

We live here because our tears stand for something that our actions cannot agree on.

We live here because our pot teams with tidbits of sugar and salt and fat that we can all enjoy.

We live here because we all fall down, all get bruised, and all ask for help eventually.

We live here because we have an intrinsic, humanistic desire to connect with each other.

We live here because our voices sing the same song and whisper the same hopes.

We live here because our dreams connote possibilities, not only for ourselves, but for everyone.

We live here because our sense of right and wrong does not infringe on someone else’s.

We live here because our entrance into the world signifies sparkling, naked possibility.

We live here because the control of others is not achieved in order to edify ourselves.

We live here because, before technology, we used our hands and our mouths.

We live here because when asked: *What do you value the most in the world?* no one ever says: *Money*.

We live here because our minds have space to debate, wonder, imagine, reflect, and reason.

We live here because we are capable of forgiving the worst and overlooking individual circumstances.

We live here because, when lives are lost, we mourn, never admonishing the cost due to scale or locale.

We live here because we don’t grow calloused to others’ pain.

We live here because our smiles and our laughter heal.

We live here because we can play or relish in anything for virtually no reason at all.

We live here because *I’m better than you* means nothing; our disagreements result in growth.

We live here because, even when we momentarily forget, someone reminds us why.

We live here because our silence articulates infinitely more.

We live here because *who* we are supersedes *what others think* we are.

We live here because we have no right to take anyone else’s right to live a dignified life ever.

We live here because at the root of it all is one word, one breath, one thought, and one touch.

We live here because our joy transcends all—where peace is as tangible as the sun on our faces.

We live here. We live here. We live.