

but he made it through, every time. And each time, he became calmer, stronger, more whole. To see him now, another 8 years later, with his family, is to witness the power of creative expression, and of love. He had wanted to kill his mother's murderer, but he chose another path, creative rather than destructive.

SafeArt reaches out to all people: victims, bystanders and perpetrators. We provide tools to prevent, halt, and heal traumatic abuse. Perpetrators tend to be unimaginative in their patterns of behavior, and if one is aware of these patterns, it is remarkably easy to detect an abusive situation. It is far more difficult to intervene, requiring courage, patience, and perseverance. However, everyone has the ability to be proactive and *SafeArt* offers safe, effective methods for making this choice. While never easy, being proactive is always an act of heroism.

Please take care of yourself when reading “*On Our Way...*”, as it could be overwhelming in its honest portrayals of abuse and trauma. There are also many words of hope and healing, as well as images upon which to rest one's thoughts.

Please let us know your response to this collection and visit our website, www.safeart.org. The youth and adult participants in *SafeArt*, whose pieces appear in this collection, all gave *SafeArt* permission to publish their work. We do so anonymously, except for the first and final pieces, which are two of *SafeArt's* 'signature' pieces, created by me in *SafeArt's* earliest days.

Thank you for joining us on our way to a more creatively expressive and compassionate society.

Tracy Penfield
SafeArt Founding Director
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