

Junior Division, Poetry  
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**Alignment (an excerpt)**

you can't force the stars to align  
stars separate slowly, soaring through the skyline  
remembering when they once danced in the dark, viewed as one  
during the drift, one found light from the sun  
the other with a newfound gleam from being alone  
both drifted with realizations clearly shown

you can't force the stars to realign  
now that they're detached, they both shine  
brighter than they ever were intertwined  
their past was rough, like tides from the moon  
as chimes of new visions came into tune

you can't force people to align  
although the thought of them might still twine  
don't have another be a reason to confine  
you from your own future, happiness, and dreams  
as you grow, you'll discover what real alignment truly means