

**FAREWELL TO ALL THE CLASSMATES I DIDN'T GET TO SAY  
GOODBYE TO**  
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Farewell to all the classmates I didn't get to say goodbye to.  
The ones I would chat with in the halls and sit behind in lecture.  
The people I recognized in the library.  
The ones I would drop down beside with a coffee to work on that assignment  
we had all been procrastinating.  
The friends I didn't text or who weren't close enough to be a part of my bubble.  
I never got to say goodbye.

That Friday in March we were told not to come back on Monday.  
I didn't get to say goodbye.  
We hoped to catch up in September.  
I would remember to ask about that job interview you had been nervous for.  
I would find out how your sister's wedding was.  
September we would catch up.

But September came and went, and I sat alone in my house.  
A few texts were sent here and there to my closest peers but not to them.  
We weren't on texting terms; we just chat in the halls.

The new year became our horizon.  
Everyone would come back.  
We would share stories and complain about zoom.  
We were going to finish strong together.  
But the new year passed too.

Sometimes I see their names pop up on my class list.  
Black screens with initials I recognize.  
But these aren't the halls.  
These aren't our seats in the 5th row of A201.  
I can't lean over to ask if you caught that last equation.  
We don't get to gossip about life while they clean the board.  
You aren't my lab partner anymore.

I will graduate without you in that room.  
There will be no friendly faces, no cheers from those that made it too.

I will walk that virtual stage alone in my living room.  
I never got to say goodbye to you.