


Hey Jett, put together a little project for you to serve as a few words of encouragement. The painting piece is just something for keepsake, it's built out of separate puzzle pieces and that represents the community you have behind you. Every beautiful puzzle has individual pieces just like how every beautiful person has supporting pieces. Some pieces in your puzzle might be bigger than others like your family in comparison to the authors of these letters, but just know that your puzzle is filled with supporters who are rooting for you in this battle. The main goal in this project is to let you know that you have a community behind you, fighting your battles with you and supporting you. The letters in the painting gift are all either from friends of mine, or random people on facebook that heard about your situation and were kind enough to spend a few minutes of their time writing a letter to you as a few words of encouragement. And since they took their time writing a few words of encouragement here's my words: From what your mum has shared you've been strong so far, in treatments and dealing with it in general, and are strong enough to sprint through your next stretch. I had a friend 2 years ago that suffered through appendicitis. Being friends with him since elementary school and seeing his vibrant usual self compared to his new life, defined by a simple infection in a useless organ, was horrible to watch but enlightening at the same time. One of the worst parts about his condition was his feeling of missing out on hangouts with his friends or with school. He wouldn't be able to meet up with his friends because of the fact that he couldn't get into a car without getting sick and being in severe pain.

You might be going through that same feeling right now, and the truth is that it sucks, but just know that your friends will be the same age as you in 2-3 years and ready to embrace you back again, and your school will still be waiting for you in 2-3 years waiting for you as well. One of the regrets my friend had was that he wished he didn't live in self-pity the whole time he went through appendicitis. Although the situation was blatantly bad, he wished that he strove to see the positives of each thing that he did. For you that may be doing what you enjoy, whether it be starting fires in the rain like they do in Survivor, or spending time with your siblings or family. Giving a mere attempt to find the positives will make it easier to get through. Even though this is a lot easier said than done, the reason I'm sending my friend's message to you is because the scariest thing about self-pity is that it snowballs. Small snowballs are harmless and reasonable even, but when it gets

too big that's when it can topple over and trap you and paralyze you. My friend was too encased in this feeling that he would stay in his room, constantly in a war between him and his mind, believing that anything he tried or did was useless. He would go to checkups, throwing up in the car with us on the way there and constantly shifting positions, trying to shrug off the pain but never being able to until the day of his surgery. However, eventually that day came around and his mum reading him a verse right before his surgery was a scene I won't be able to forget. She read Joshua 1:9: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. She ended off with a prayer and we left the room. Just like God was with my friend wherever he went, know that we will be with you wherever you go. Although we might not be there in person standing right beside you, you can rest on the fact that you have a community behind you rooting for you to recover as quickly as you can. I sent a message to a few friends asking them to write a letter and they jumped at the chance. Similarly, I sent a message to a few people on facebook and they wrote back thoughtful letters. This just goes to show that wherever you walk, and wherever you go we will be there for every step of the way rooting for you. Whatever you do, and whatever you feel, just know that you're not alone. Starting this little project, in all honesty I didn't think it would work as well as it has so far. I made a bot that auto sent messages to people who suffered from a similar situation as you. I published a draft to a website called GitHub, a tool to get people to collaborate with each other. Over 32 people helped make the code and sent me separate files on ways I could improve it and ways it could refine the bot. For context, I've made nearly 8 projects on GitHub and have had only 1 person help. The fact that 32 people, all moved by the unfair situation a 12 year old was placed in, helped create this project was mind blowing to me. So every time you glance at this painting, or go through a hard time I hope you remember that you have a team of 32 coders, friends, family, and me right behind you.

-A puzzle piece, Caleb

Hey Jett! I know you're going through a tough time right now but I assure you that all will be well. Please continue to fight on and to remain strong and enthusiastic. Don't worry about a thing, many people have been in a similar situation as you and they too have gotten through it.

Please always try to remain faithful and hopeful
You have amazing people around you who are willing to love and support you just like your friend Caleb 
All will be well, just continue to believe
-Fumpa Meleka

Hi Jett,

I am Jazz from India, I have heard about you from your friend and I am writing this mail to let you know that there are a lot of people who are there for you in this world and even if I can't be there physically, I can be there mentally, I hope I connect with you through my words ... I want you to know that you are a superhero, you have superpowers and you can do anything, just imagine everything you want, when you open the doors of imagination, you can consider yourself a hero or a villain, it's up to you, but in real life you are the superhero ... The battle you are fighting is nothing if you use the power of hope, every person has it but they just have to believe in it ... I want you to close your eyes everyday for a few seconds and think about all the good memories that give you courage and that give you the energy to fight the condition you have ... Never think that you are not fine, always focus on the good, just think about only the good things that happen daily, ignore all the bad things you hear, if somebody approaches you with a lot of sorrow and sadness, tell them to go away, tell everybody that you are there to only hear good things ... I don't know if you have ever read the book "The Secret" ... it's the best book to keep you positive and motivated ... you should read it, it will give you the strength and the hope and all the energy you need ... When you wake up every day, close your eyes and focus on the sounds that come from afar, it will keep you connected with the world ... You can feel weak physically but you can never feel weak mentally unless you want to, you are a strong person Jett ... I really pray for your speedy recovery ... Get well soon little Jett .

Hey Jett! I know life can be a struggle sometimes, but you'll never get anything too big for you to handle. You have so many people along the way to help you, just keep pushing.

"fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10 ESV

-Carder

Hey, I am a friend of Caleb and when I heard about your situation I thought that you needed a word of encouragement, so I just wanna say that I am praying for you and that you have the support of many people that have your back, don't forget that.

You got this homie.

-Abel

Hey Jett. I know your going through a hard time right now and I know that you will be able to get through it. Just remember that many people care about you and are there for you if you need anything.

-Jay

Hey Jett! I'm Zach, one of your mom's students. When Cisne first told us about what you're going through, I couldn't even begin to understand your situation. You've made it so far and you've had unimaginable strength and endurance along the way. I hope that through this trial you continue to endure as you have been, and that you look towards the future with hope, because you WILL make it through this.

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." And He who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

Revelation 21:4

-Zach