



Letters of Hope

Letters from the GLAAD
community to support and
inspire LGBTQ+ youth.



Foreword

In a world that often feels divided, the need for connection has never been more urgent, especially within the LGBTQ+ community. "With Love" was born out of this necessity, a project dedicated to bridging the gap between queer youth across different regions, offering them a sense of solidarity and hope through the simple, yet profound, act of letter writing.

The essence of "With Love" is rooted in the power of words. By collecting heartfelt letters from LGBTQ+ individuals and allies in one area and delivering them to queer youth in another, we create a tangible link of support that surpasses physical boundaries. These letters serve as reminders that no one is alone in their journey, that there is a community ready to stand by them, even if they've never met in person.

At the 2024 GLAAD Media Awards, in partnership with Hyundai, we took this mission to a new level. We invited attendees to write letters to queer youth, encouraging them to share their stories, words of encouragement, and expressions of love. The response was overwhelming. The letters collected at the GLAAD Media Awards are not just pieces of paper; they are lifelines, each one carrying a message of strength, resilience, and understanding.

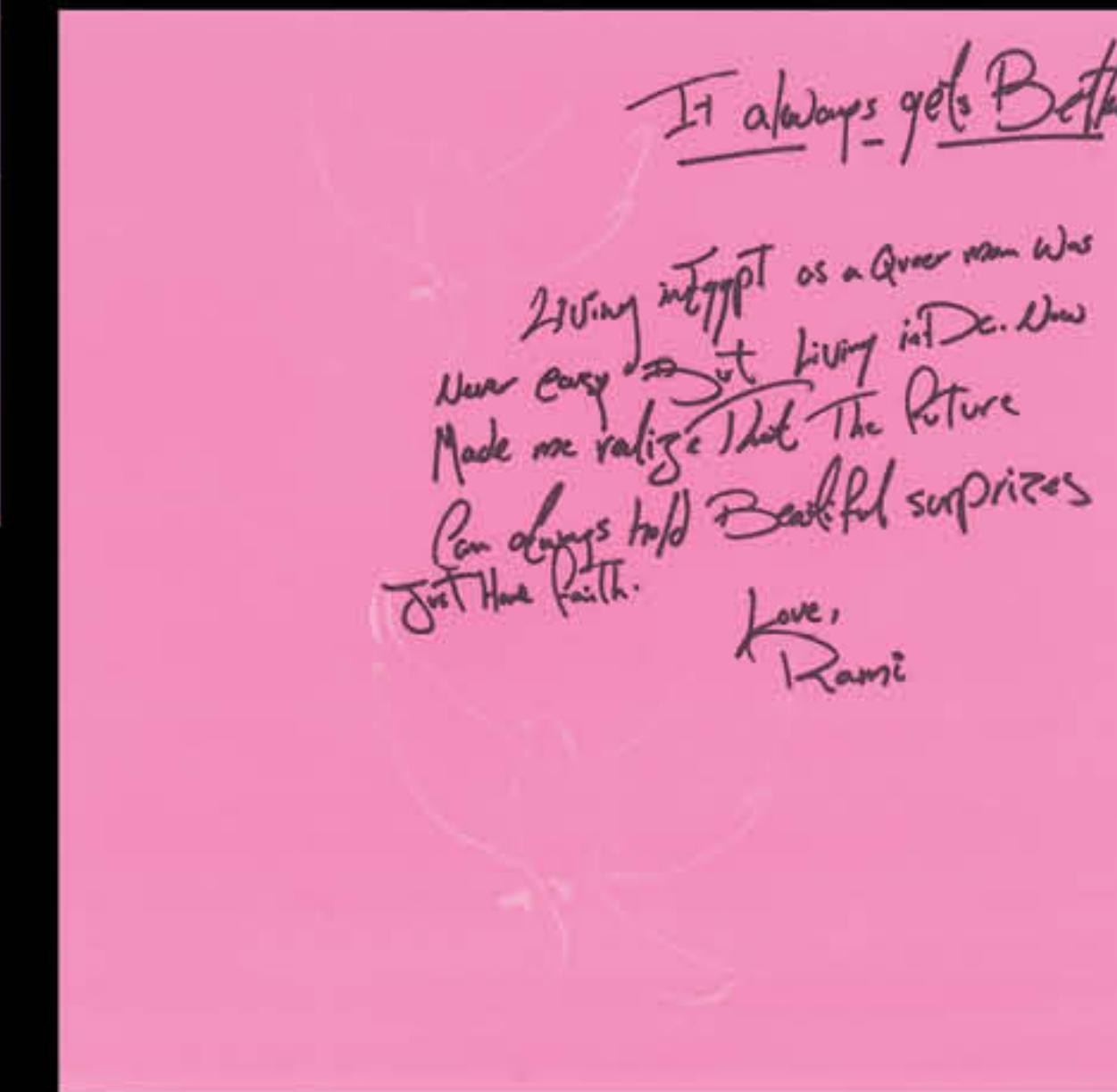
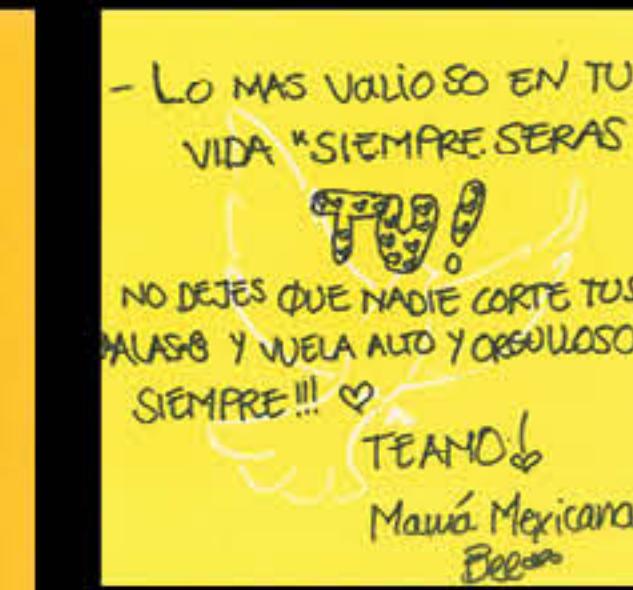
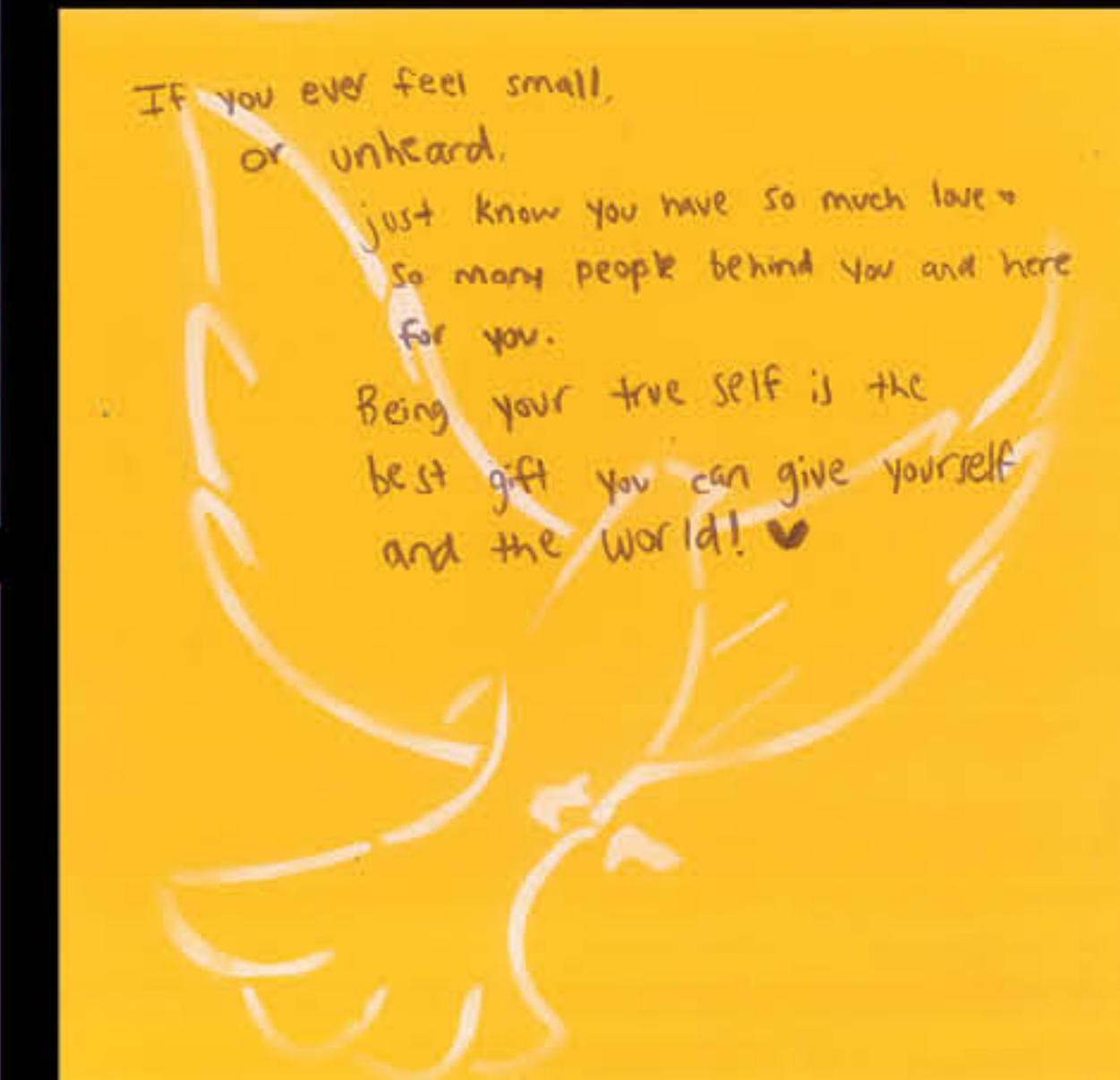
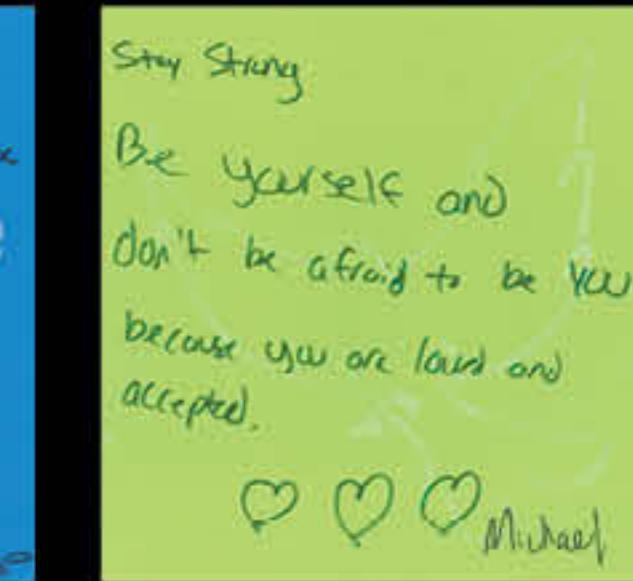
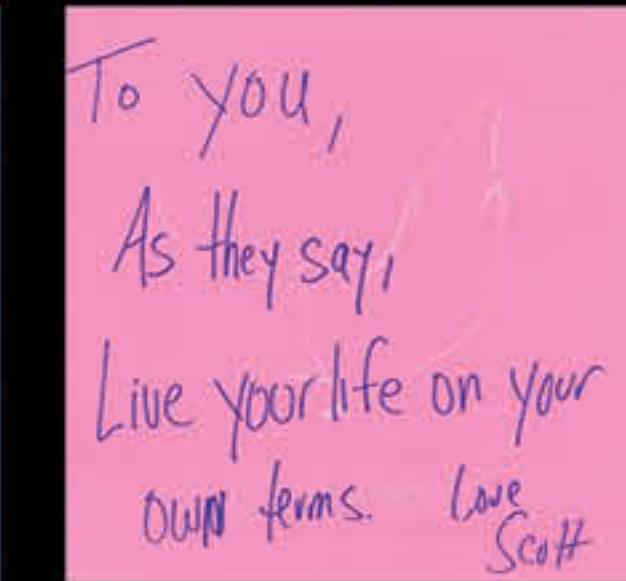
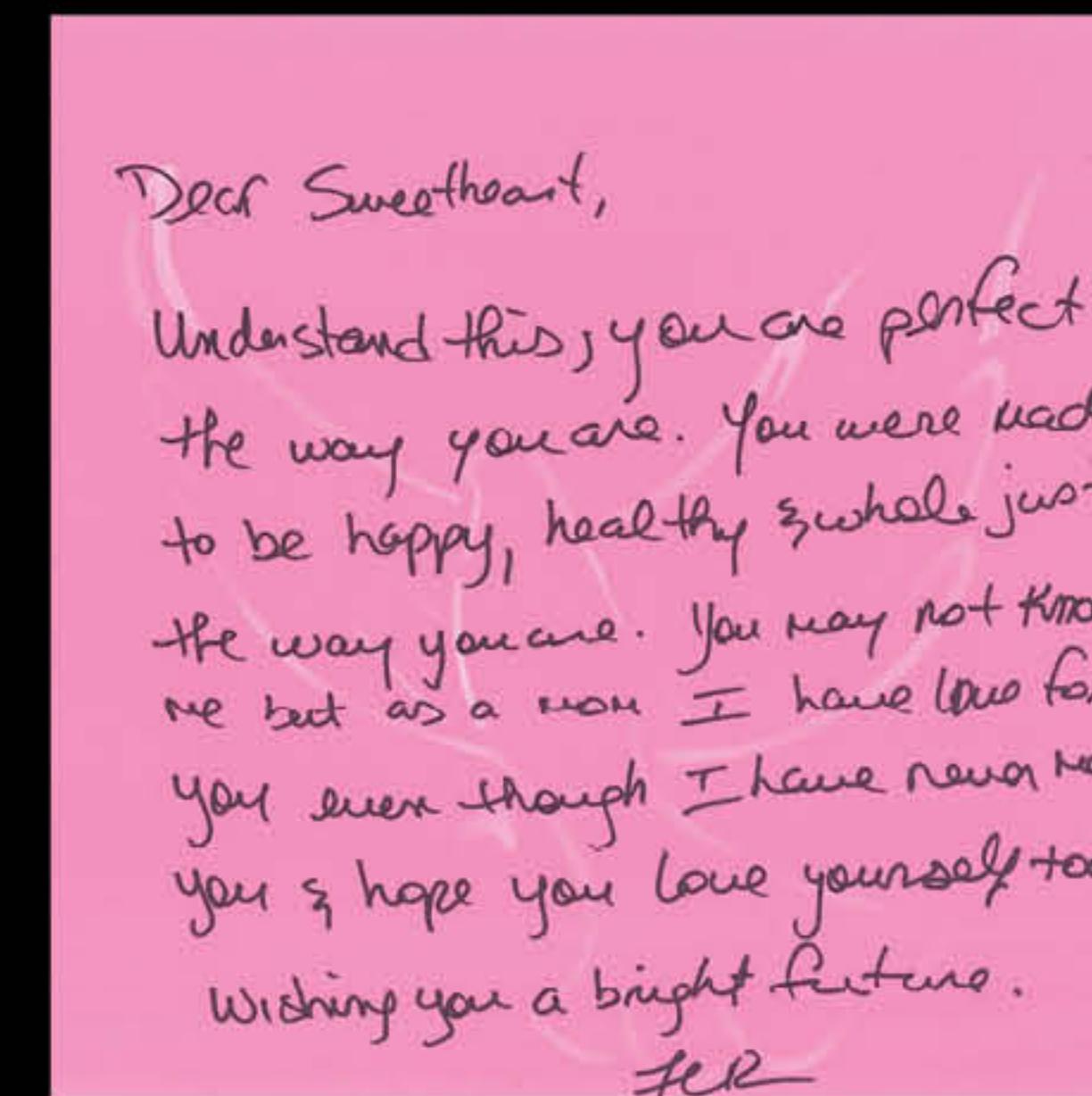
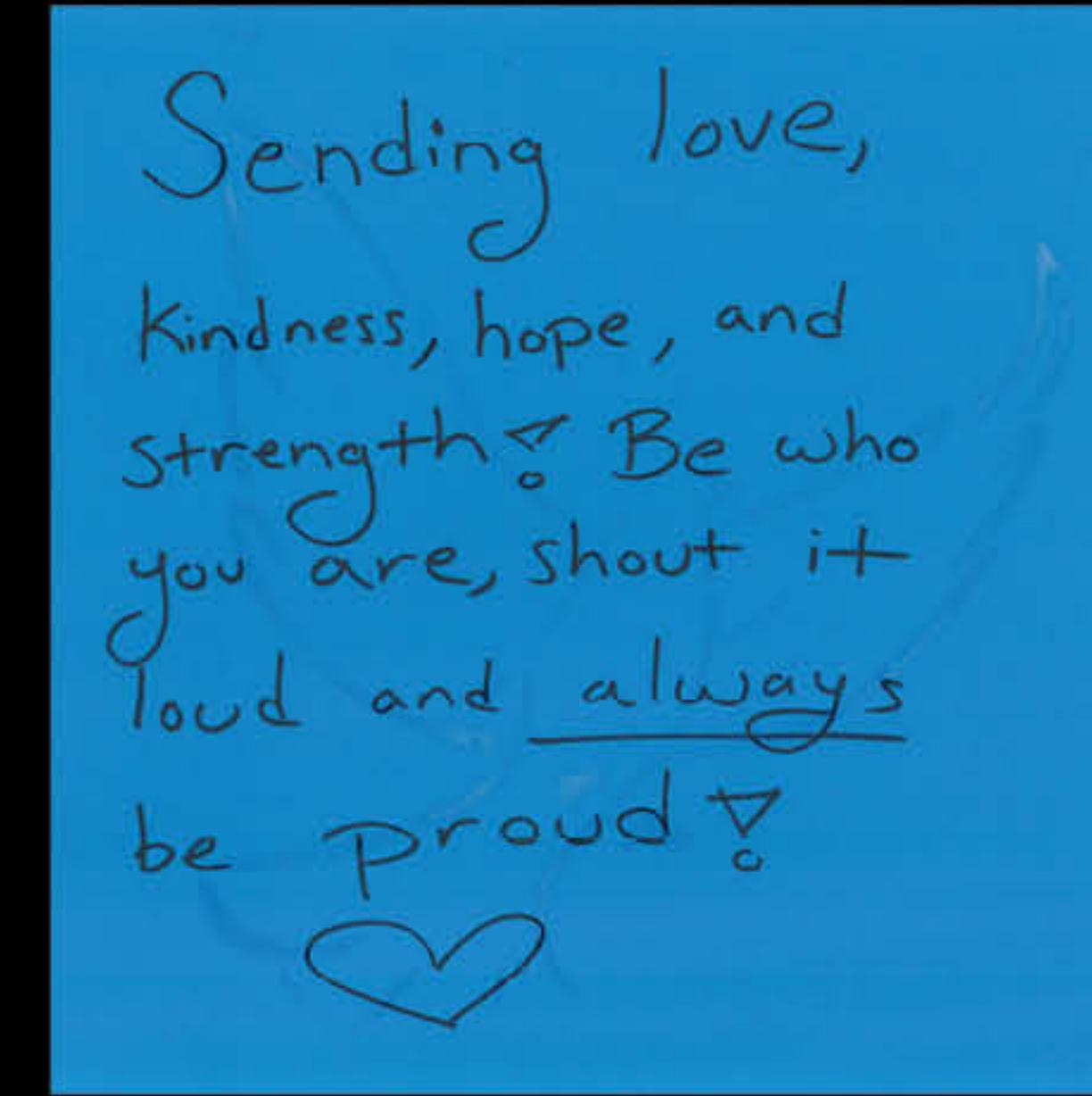
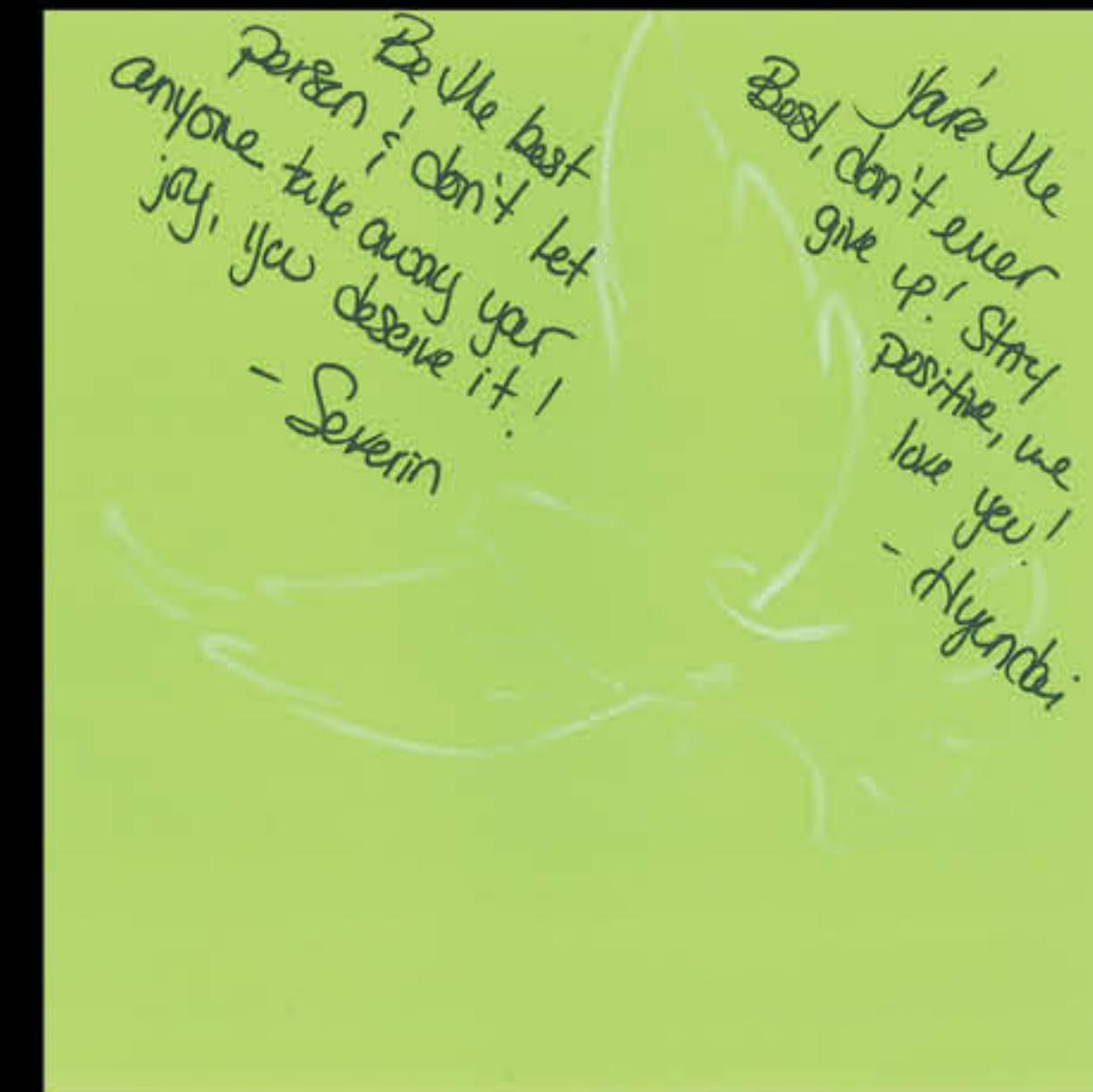
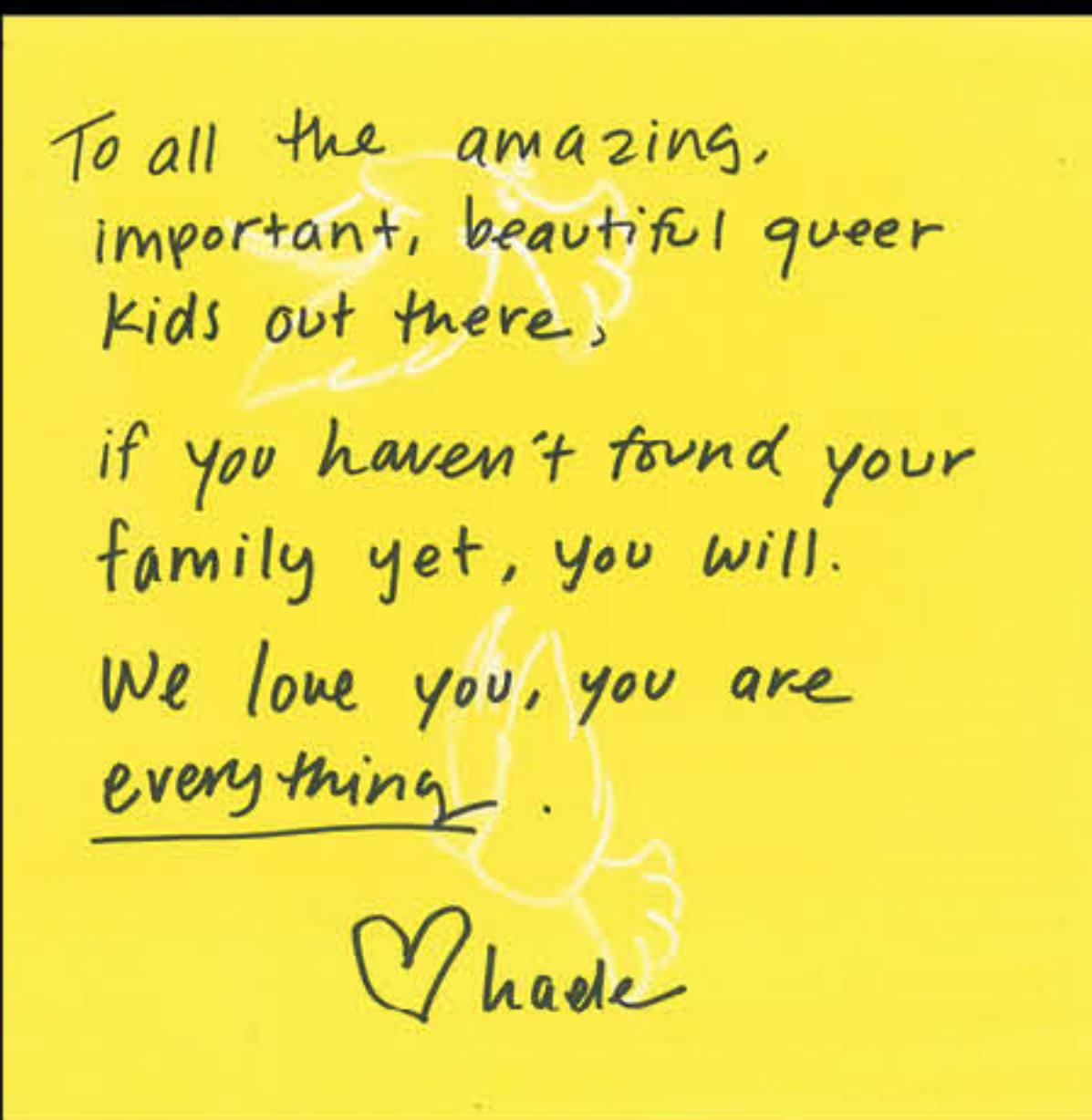
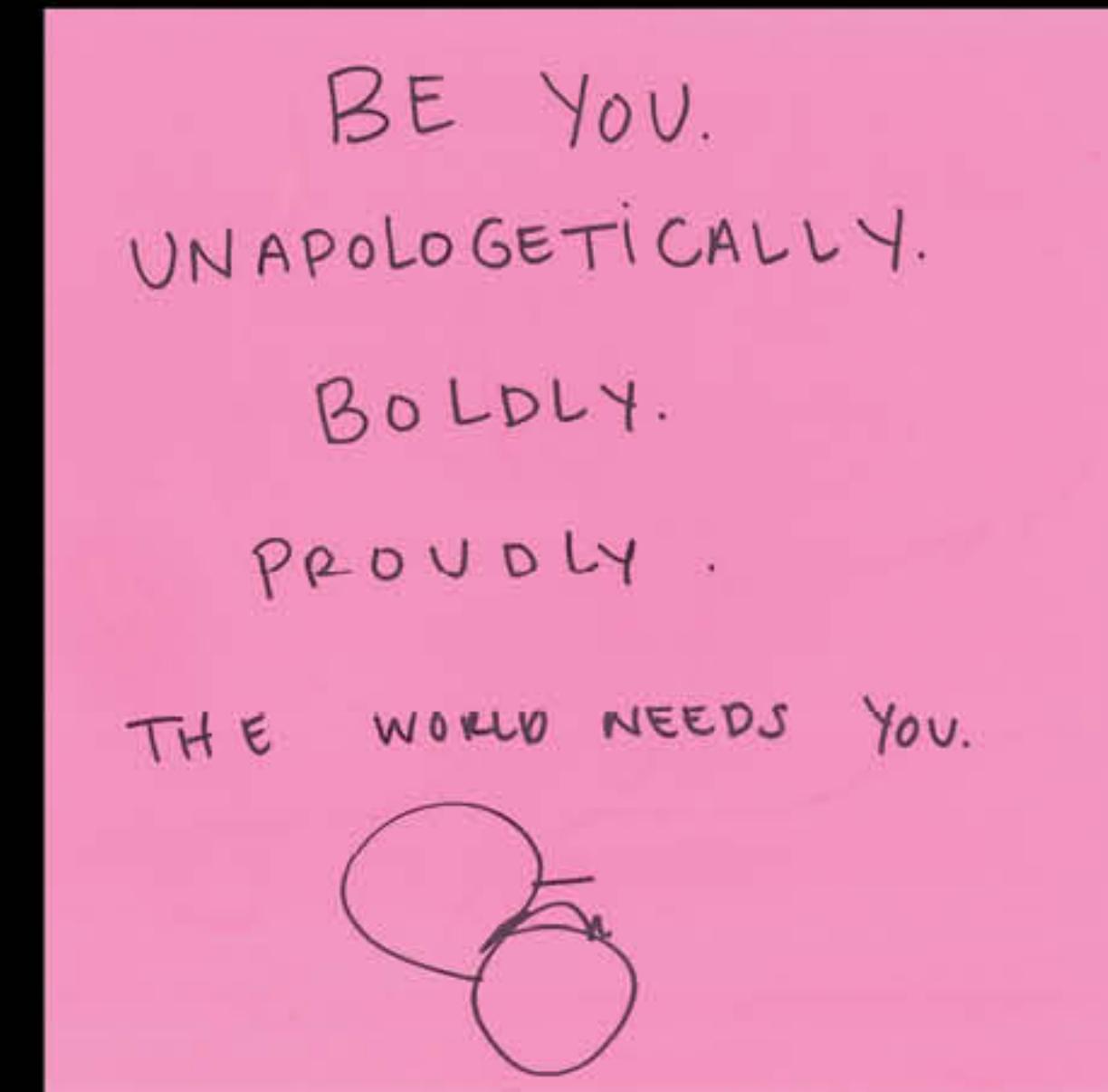
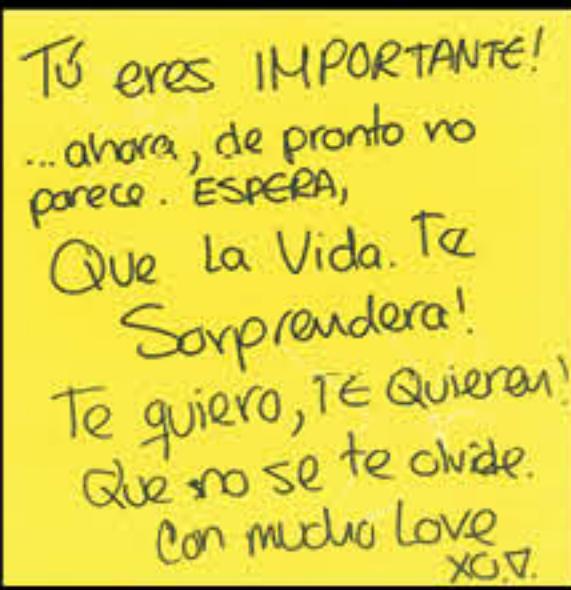
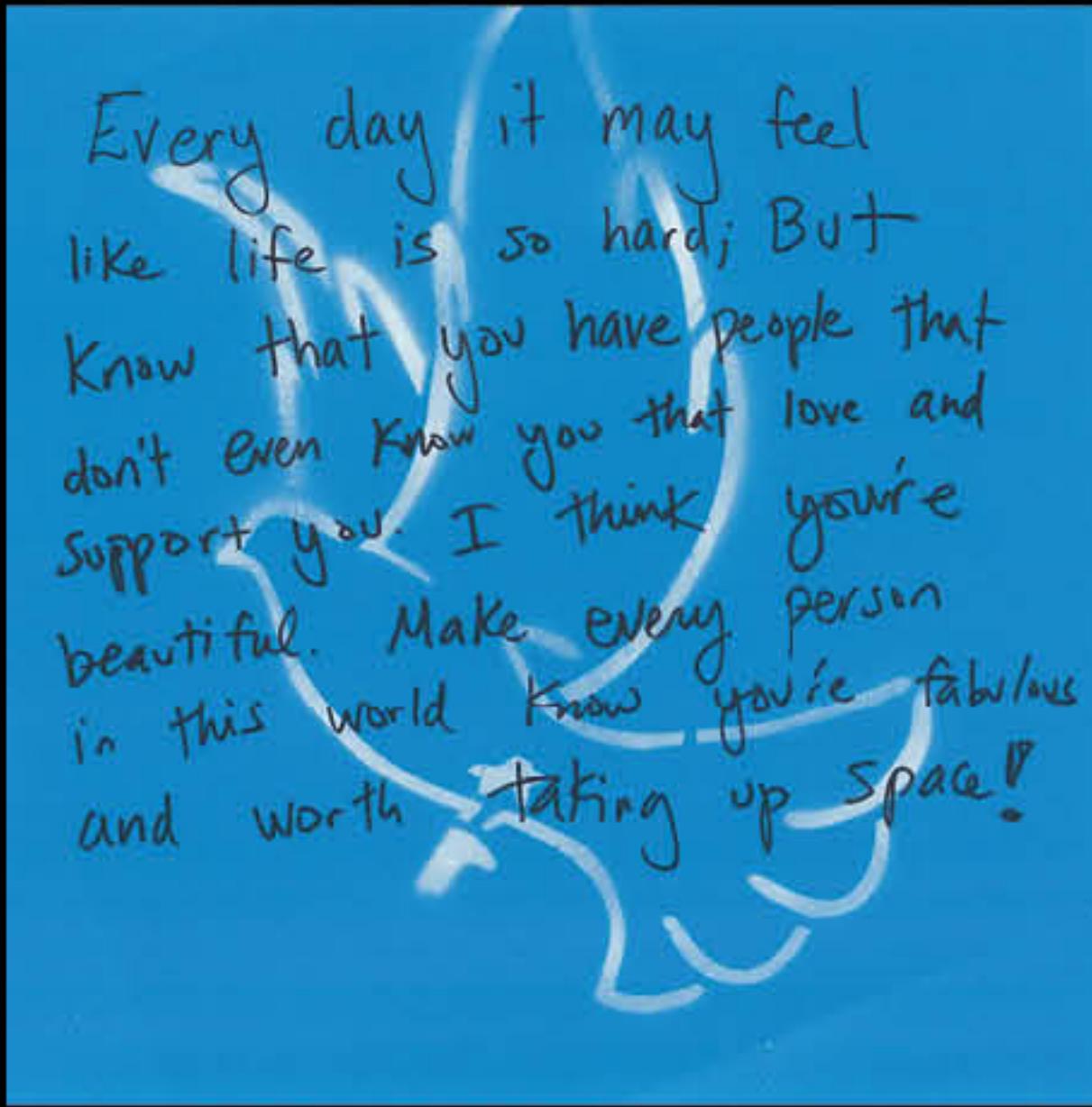
Now, as these letters make their way to different cities, we are also preserving some of their powerful messages in this booklet. This collection is a testament to the strength of the LGBTQ+ community and its allies, a beacon of hope for those who may feel isolated or lost.

If you're reading this, I urge you to take part in this movement. Write a letter, share your story, and become a part of this chain of support. Your words can make a difference. Together, we can continue to foster connection, one letter at a time.

— Corie Mattie

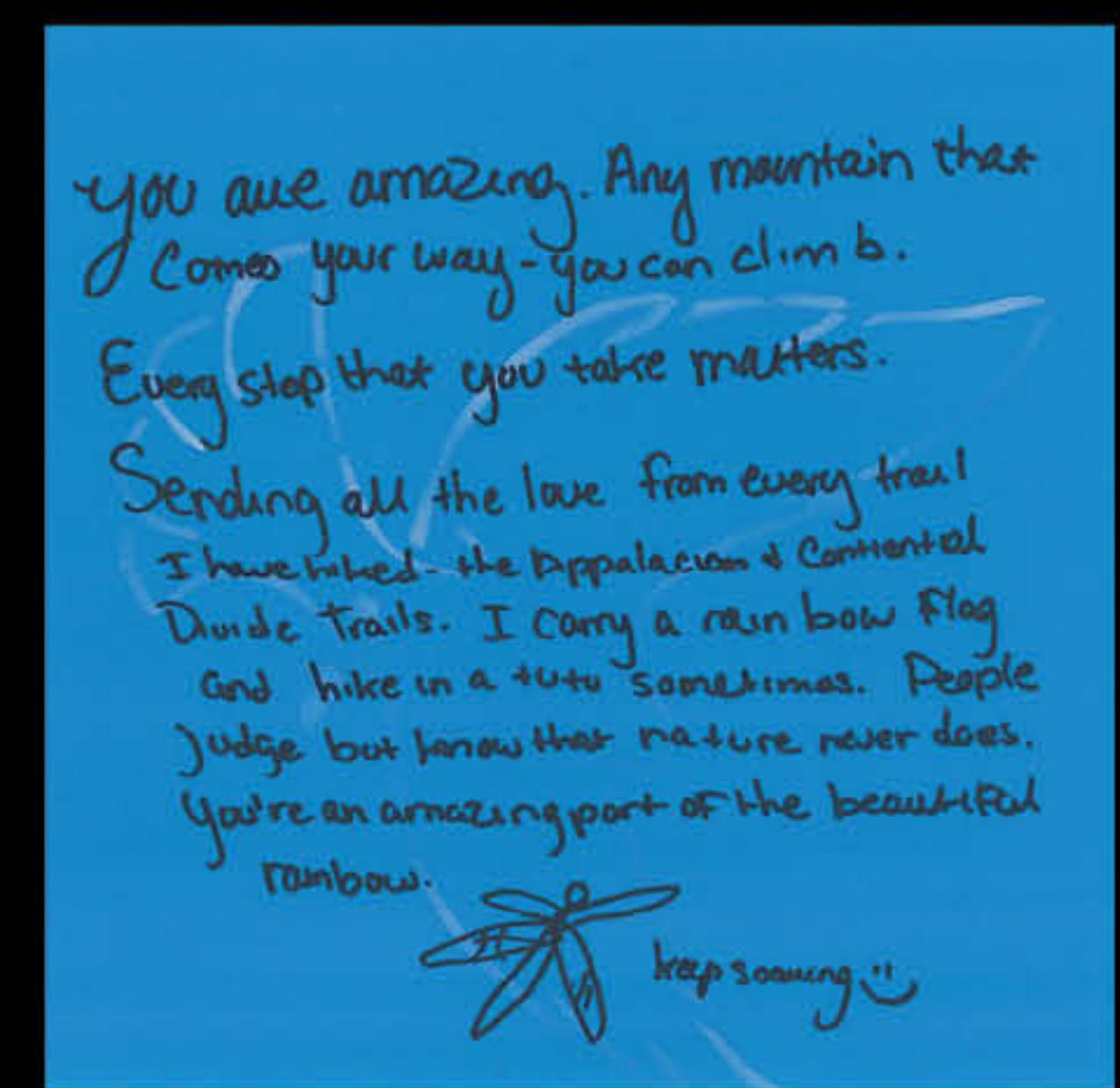
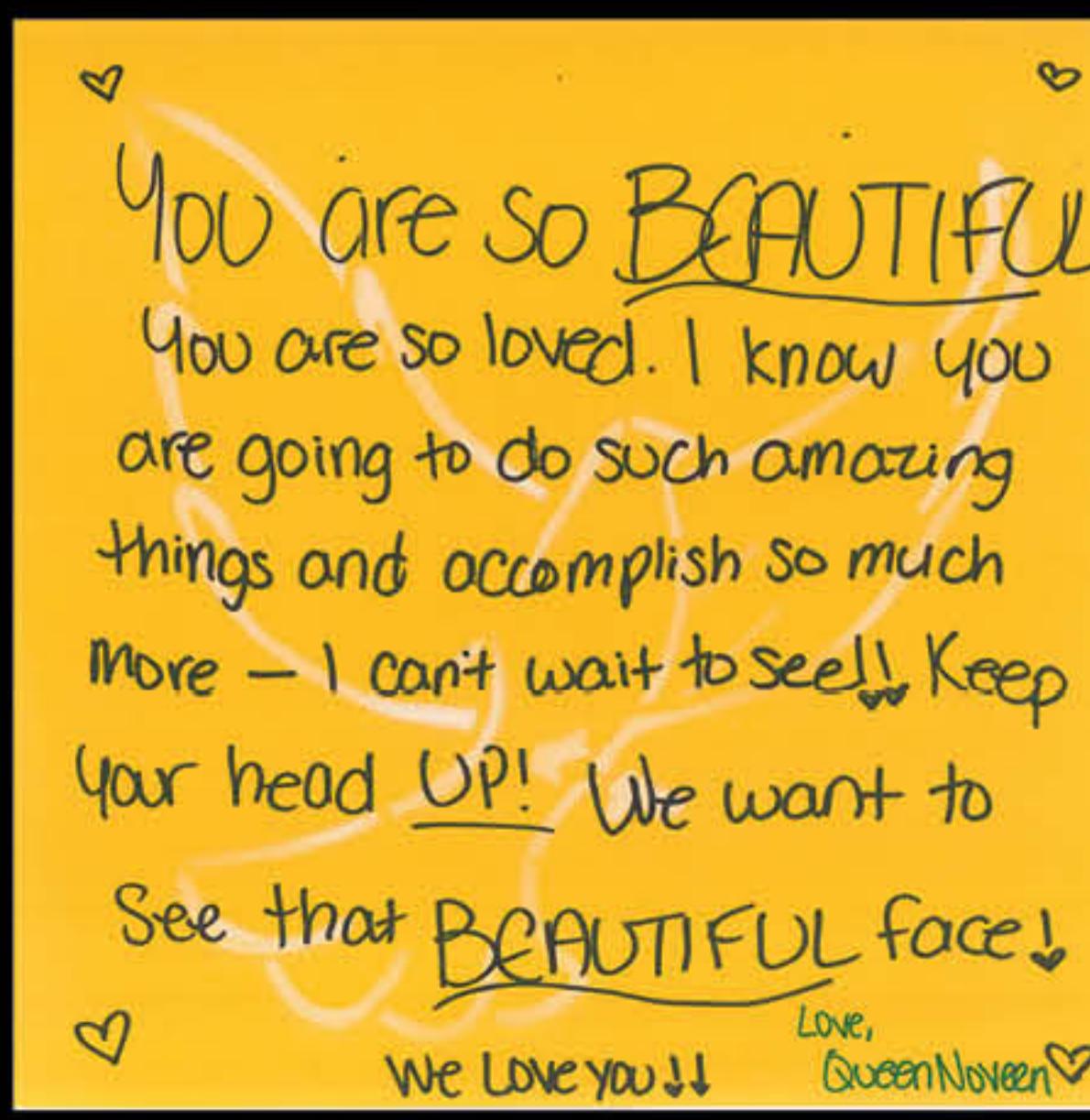
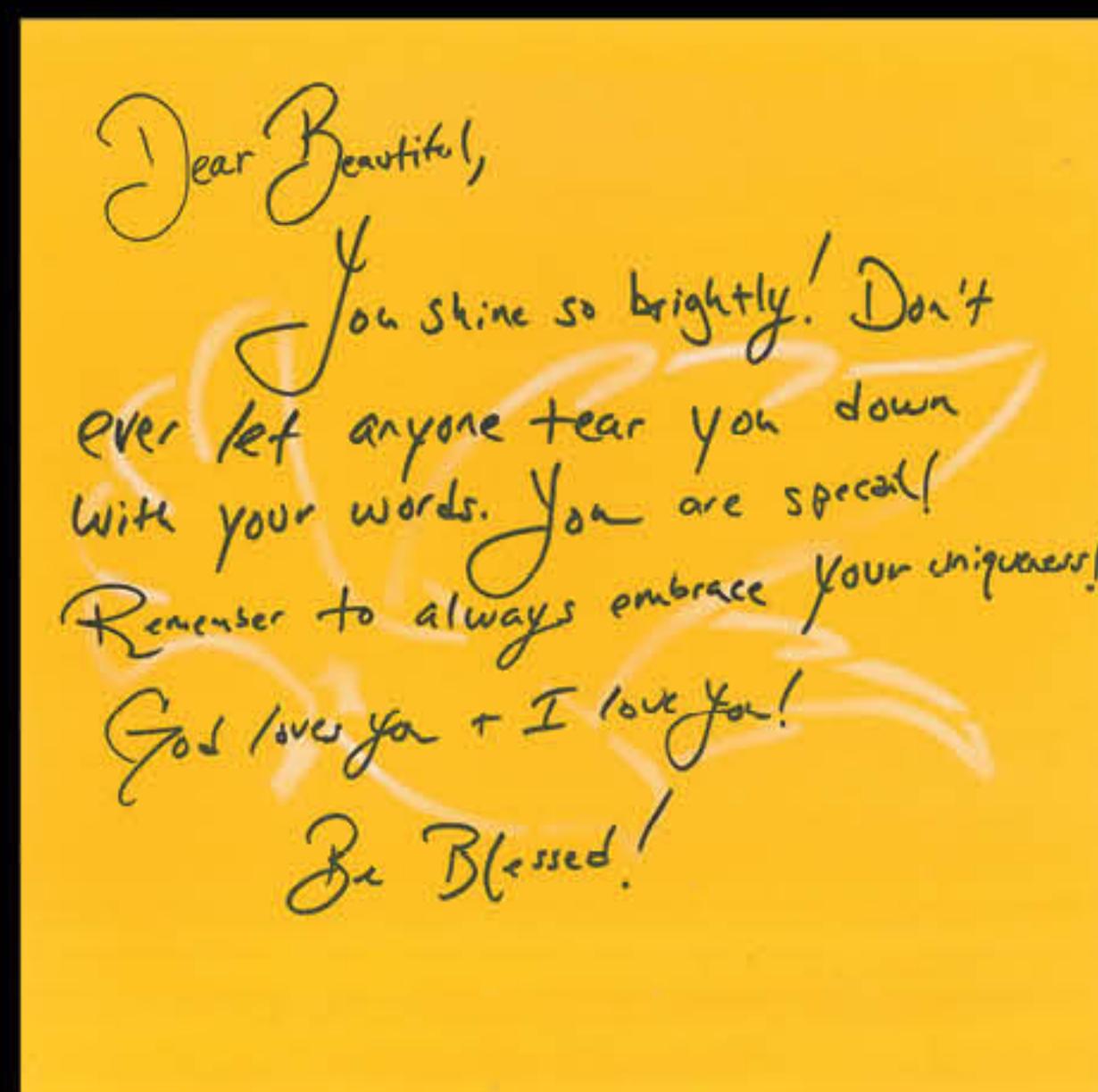
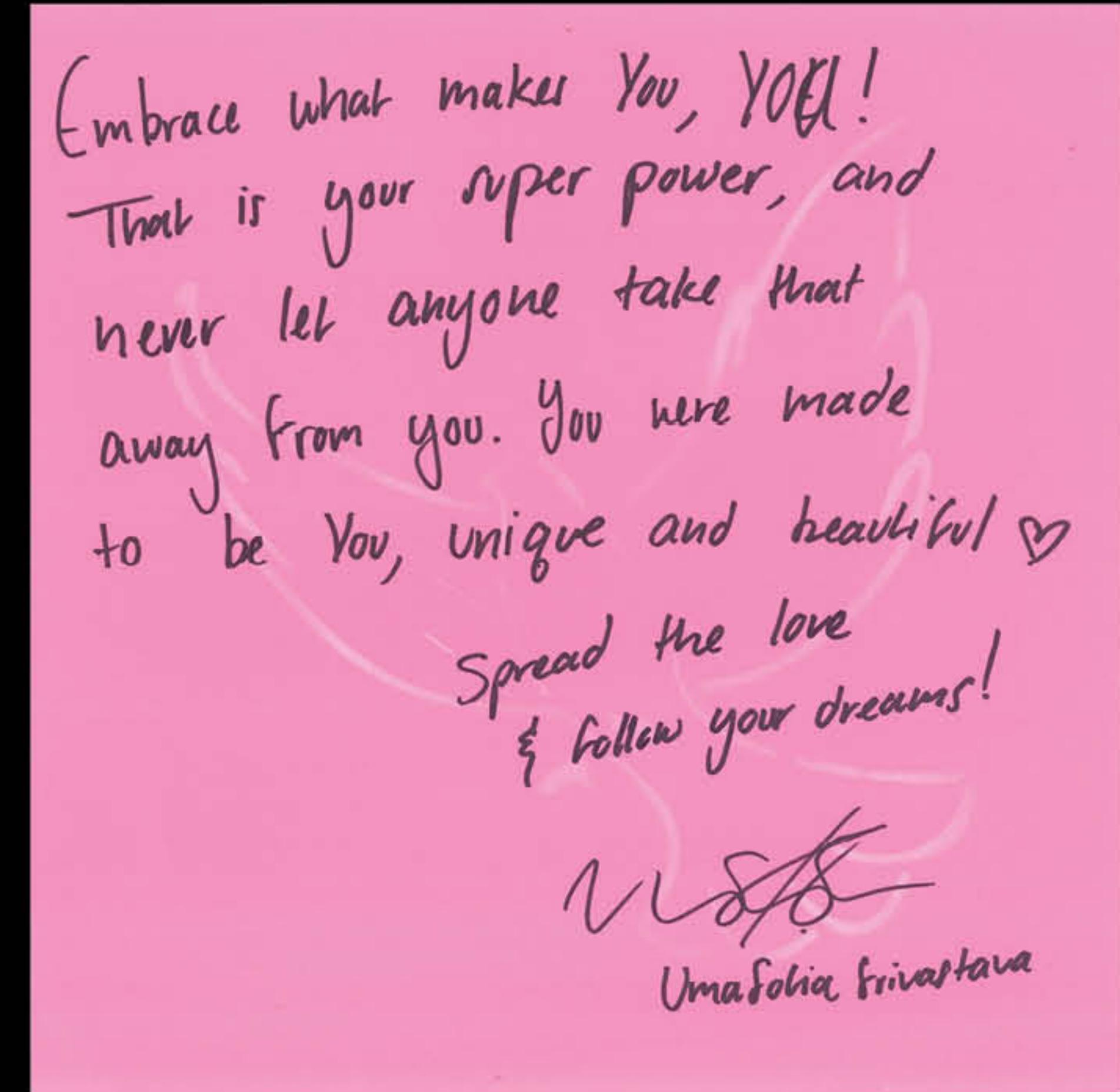
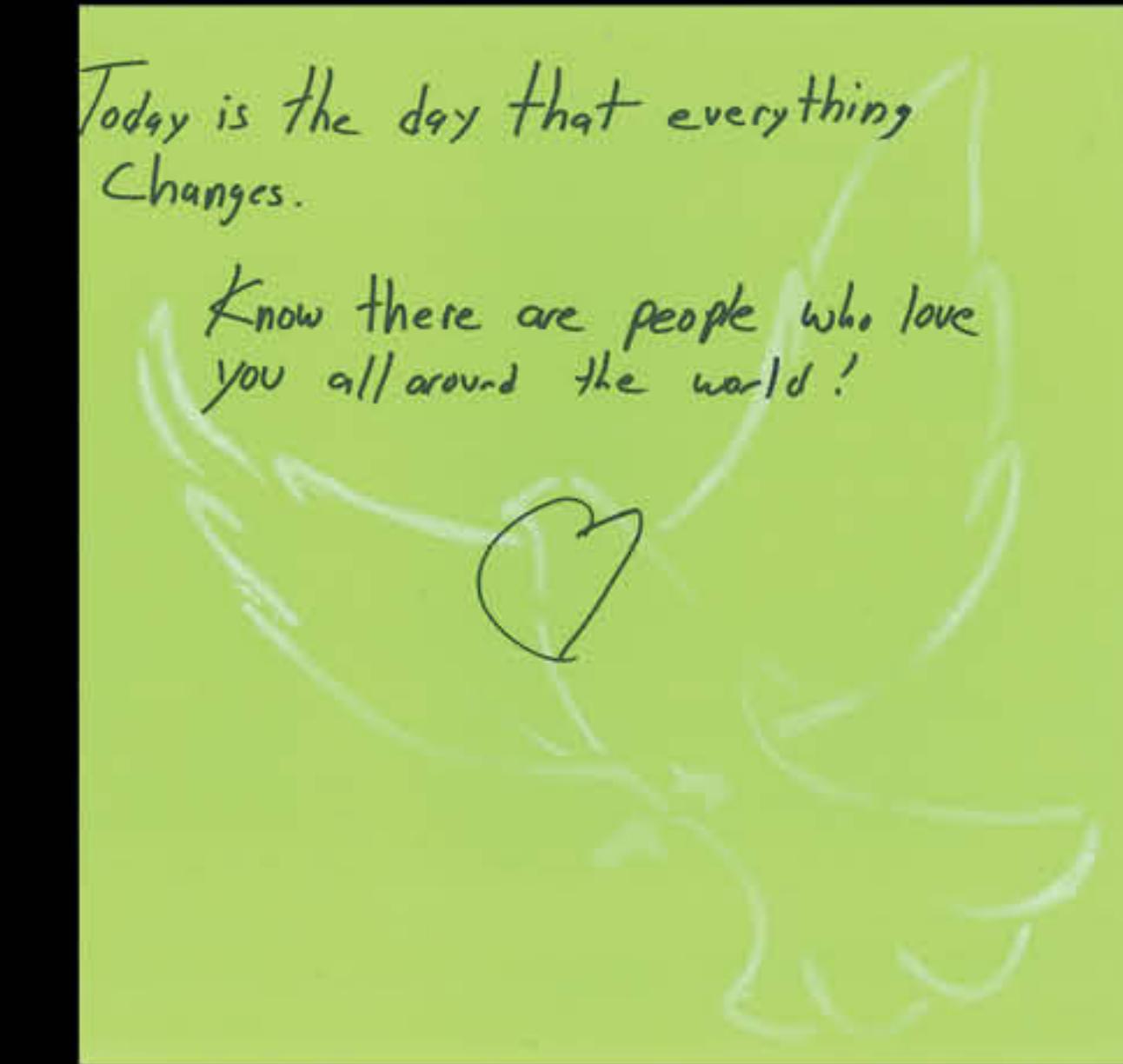
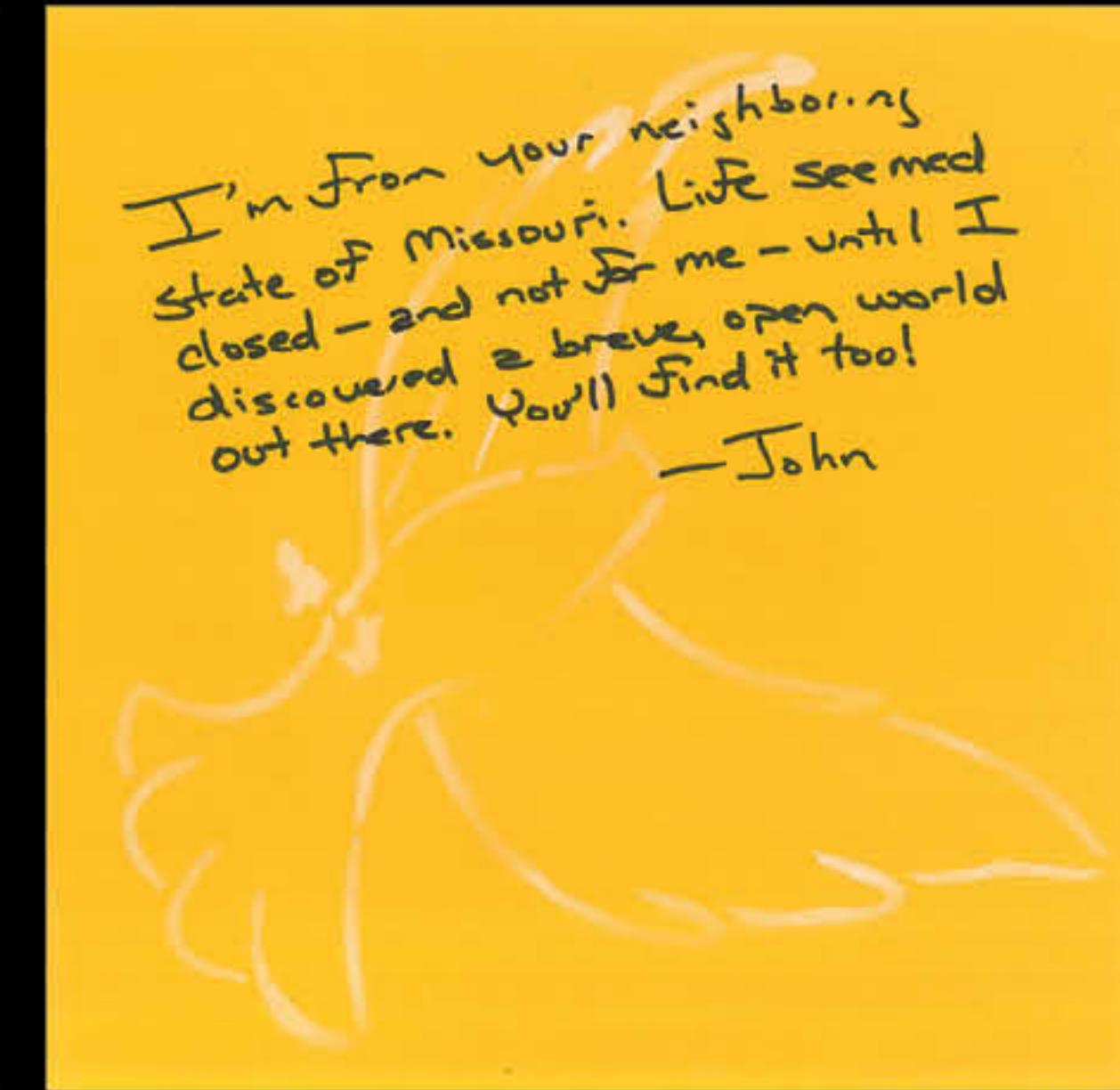
Letters of Hope

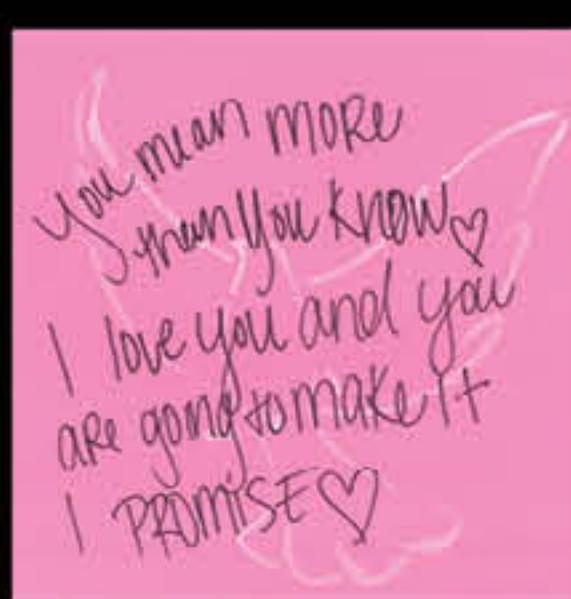
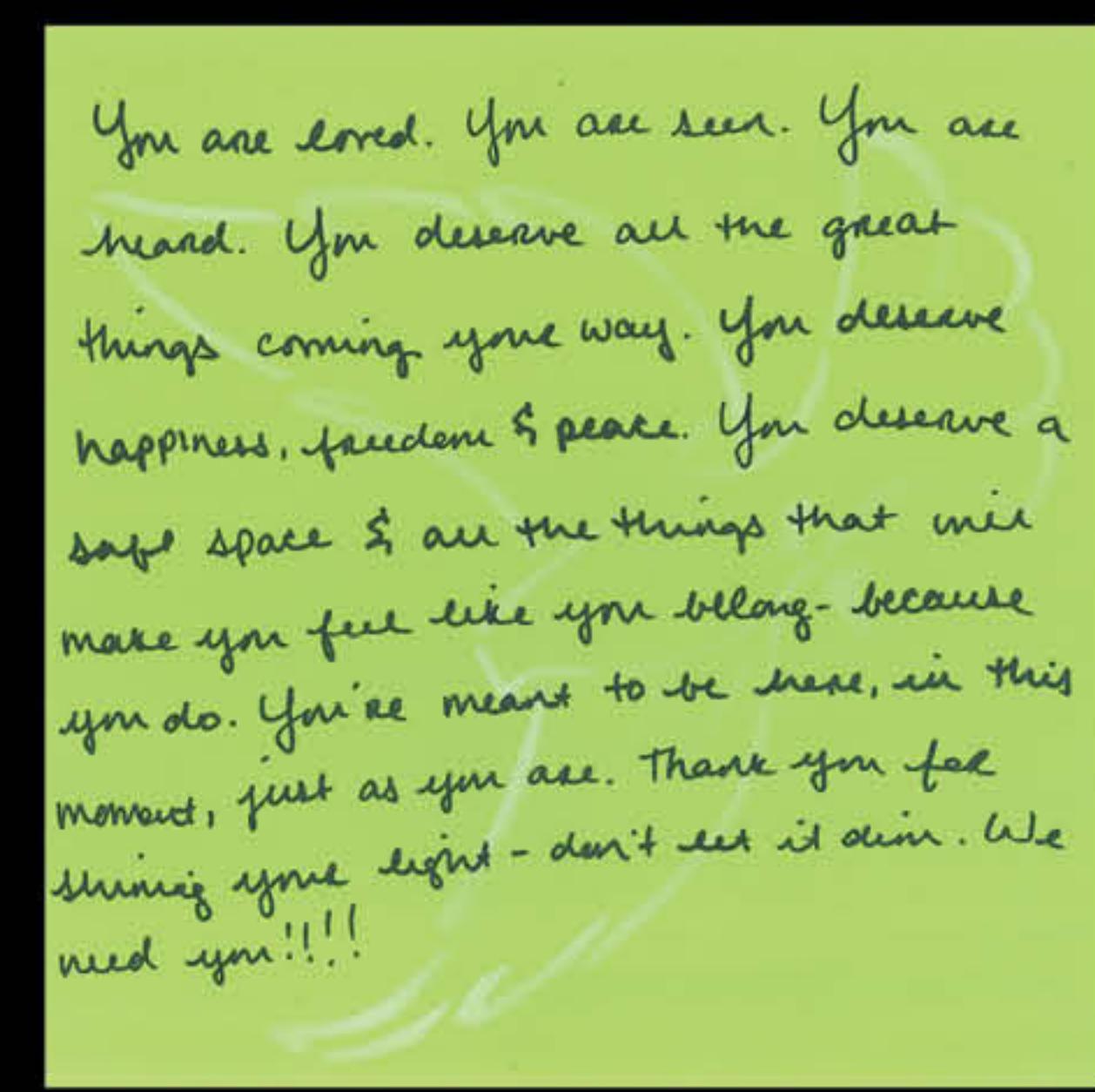
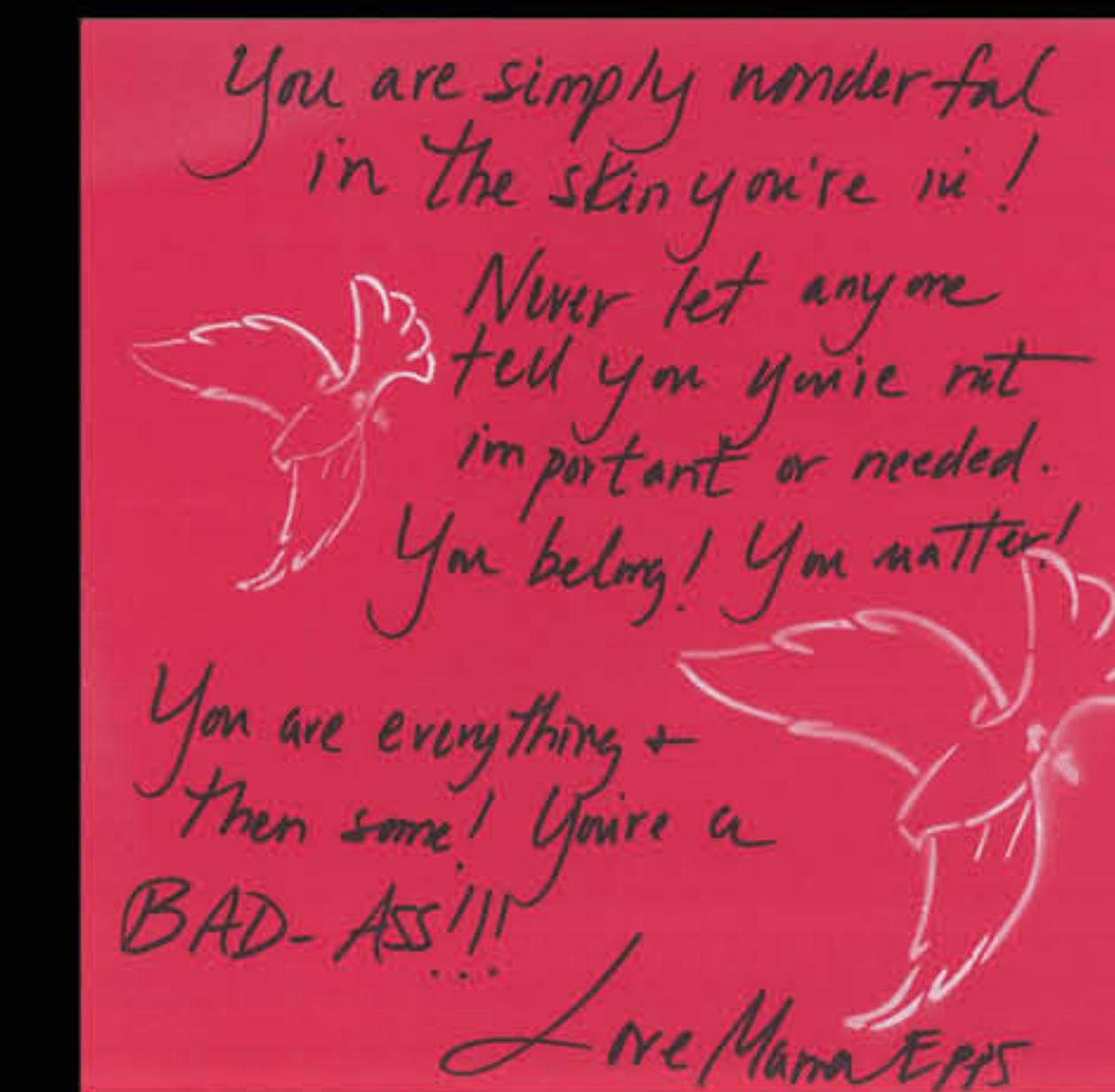
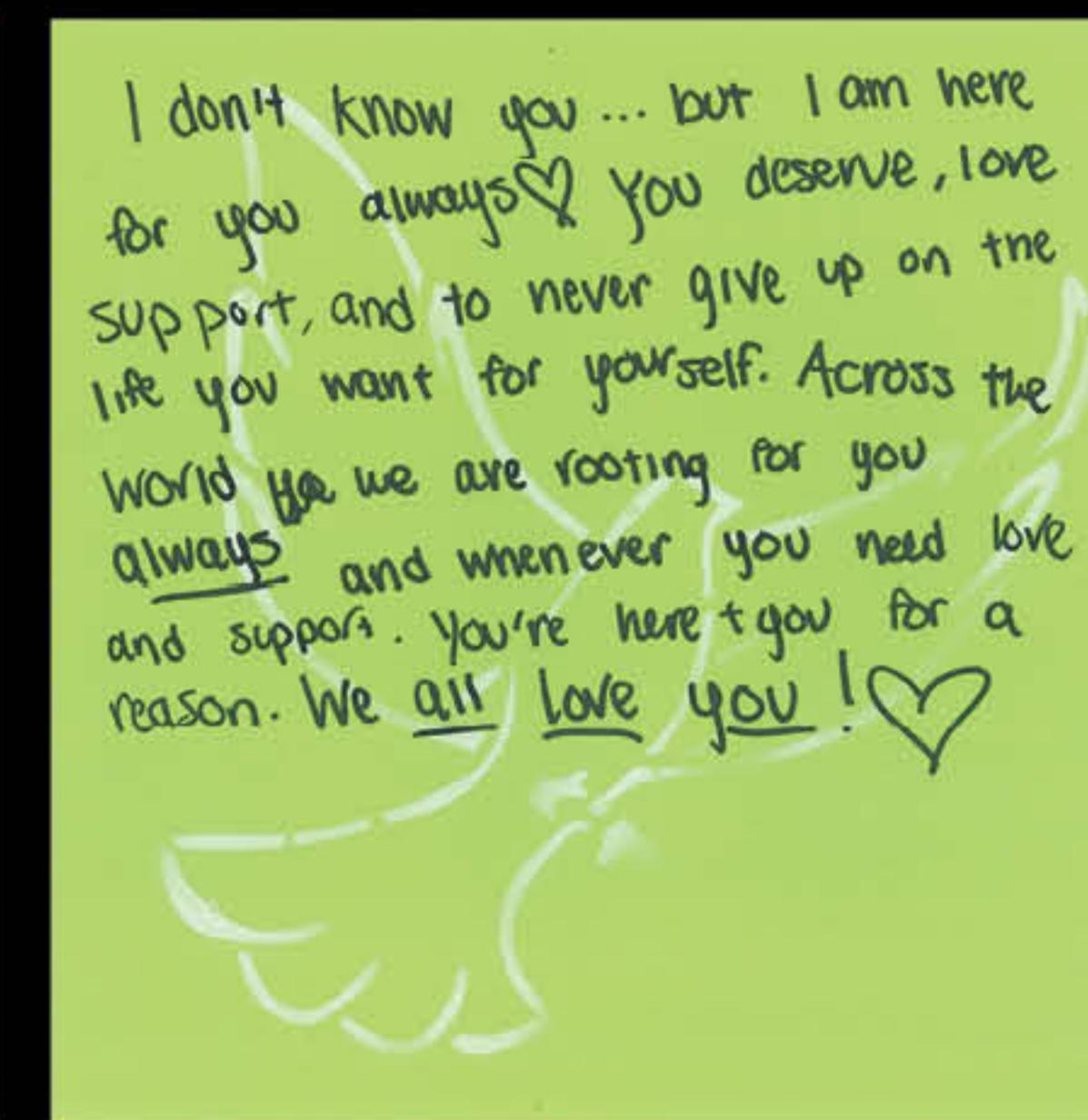
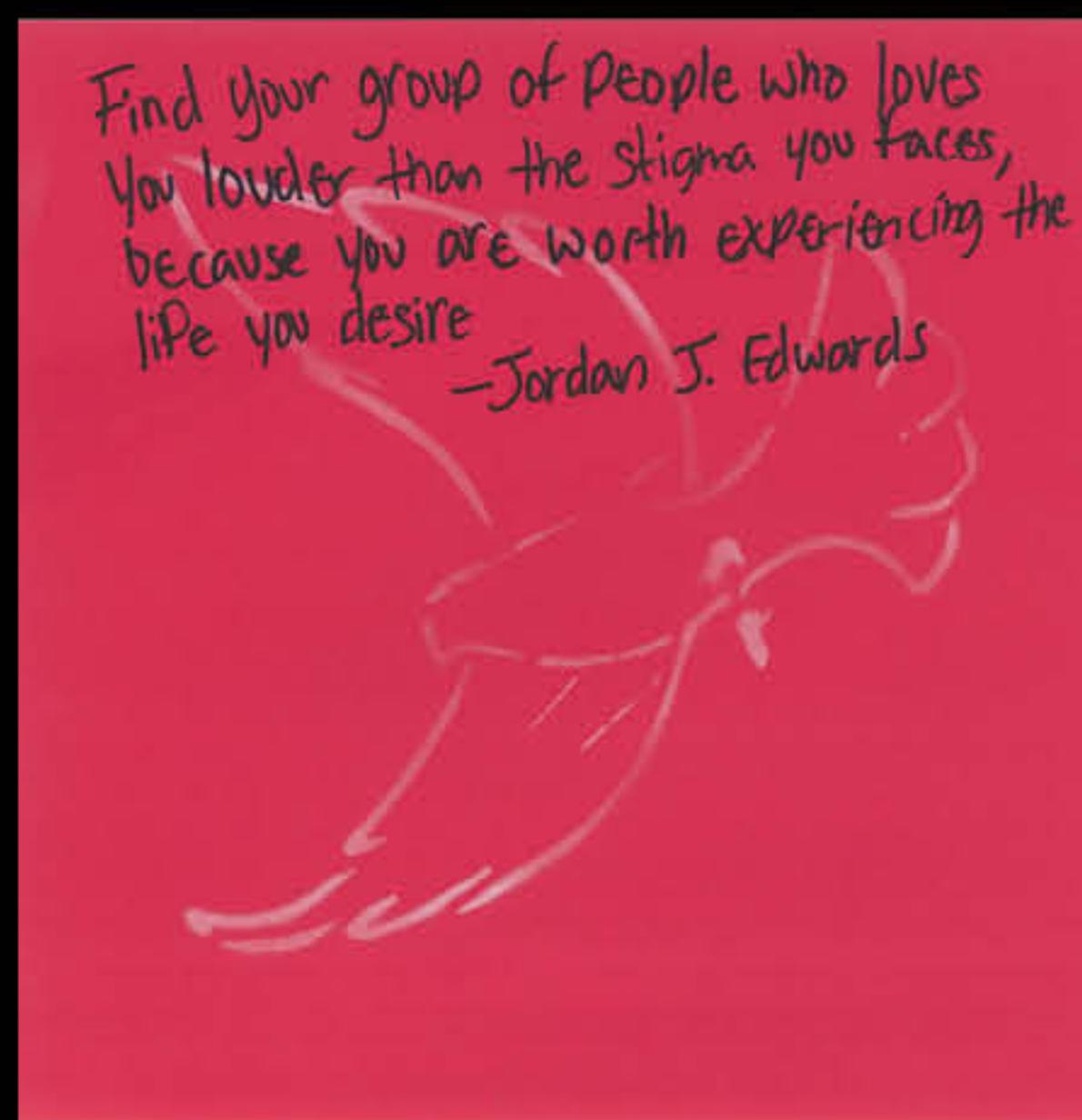
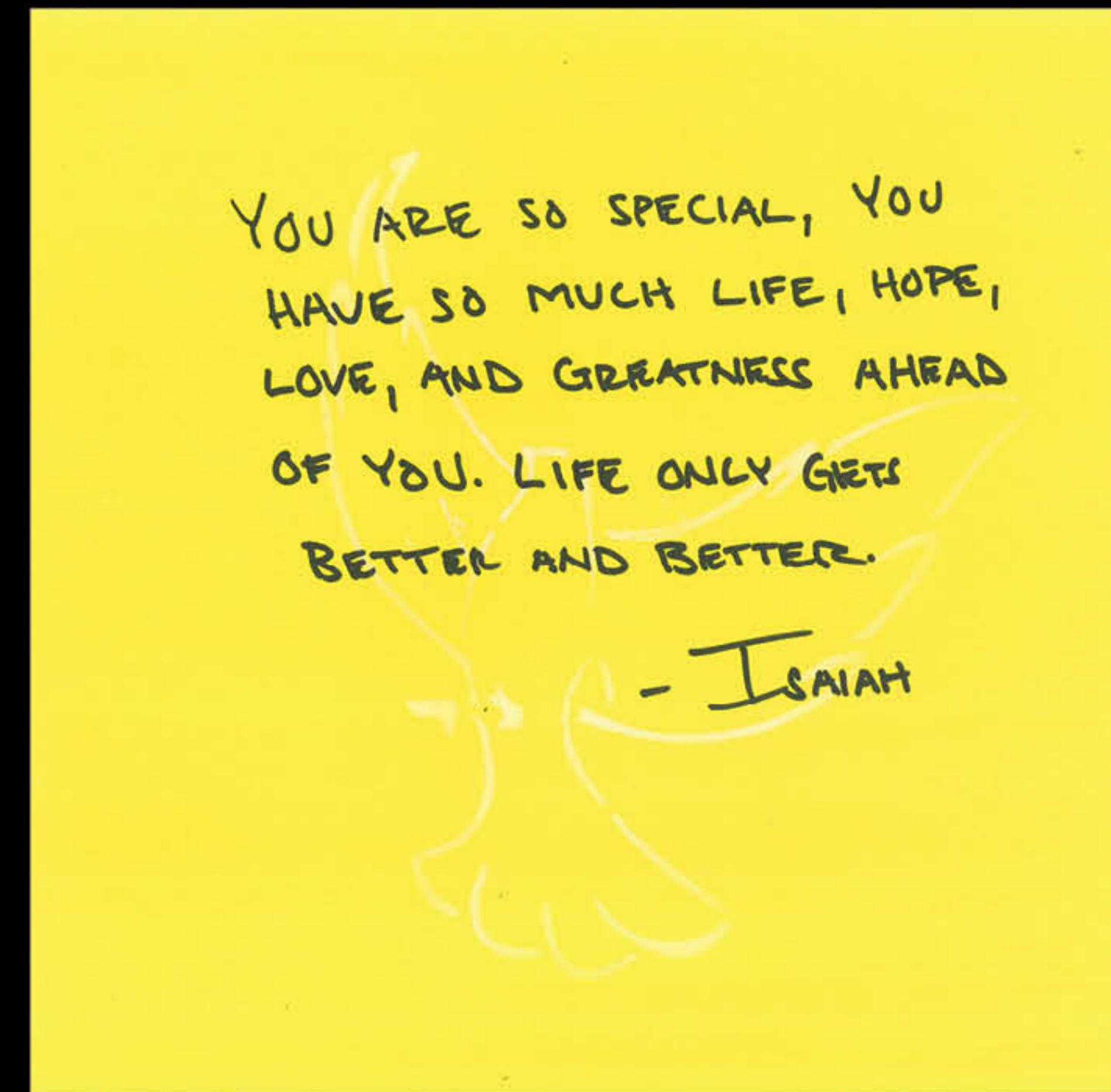
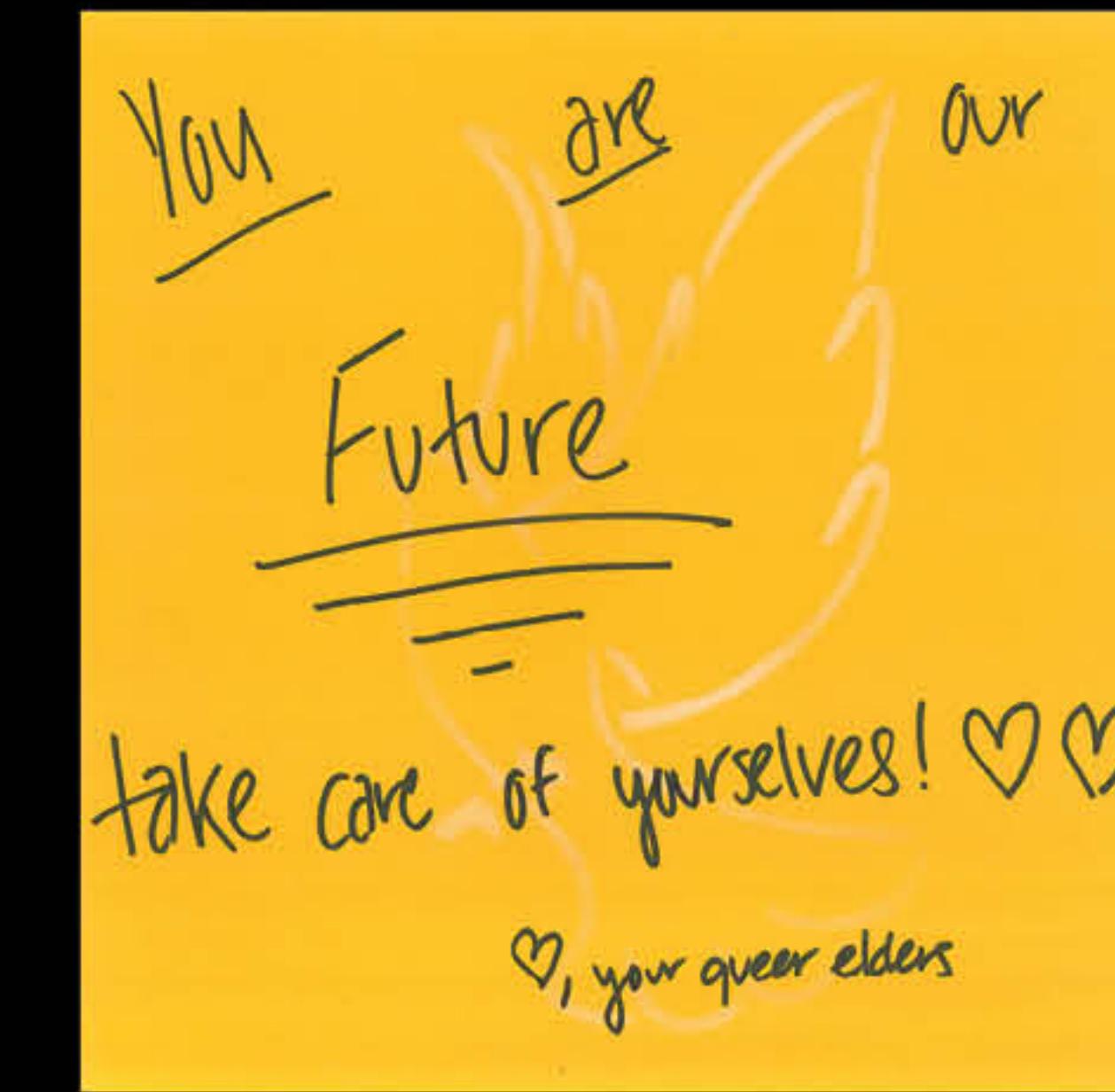
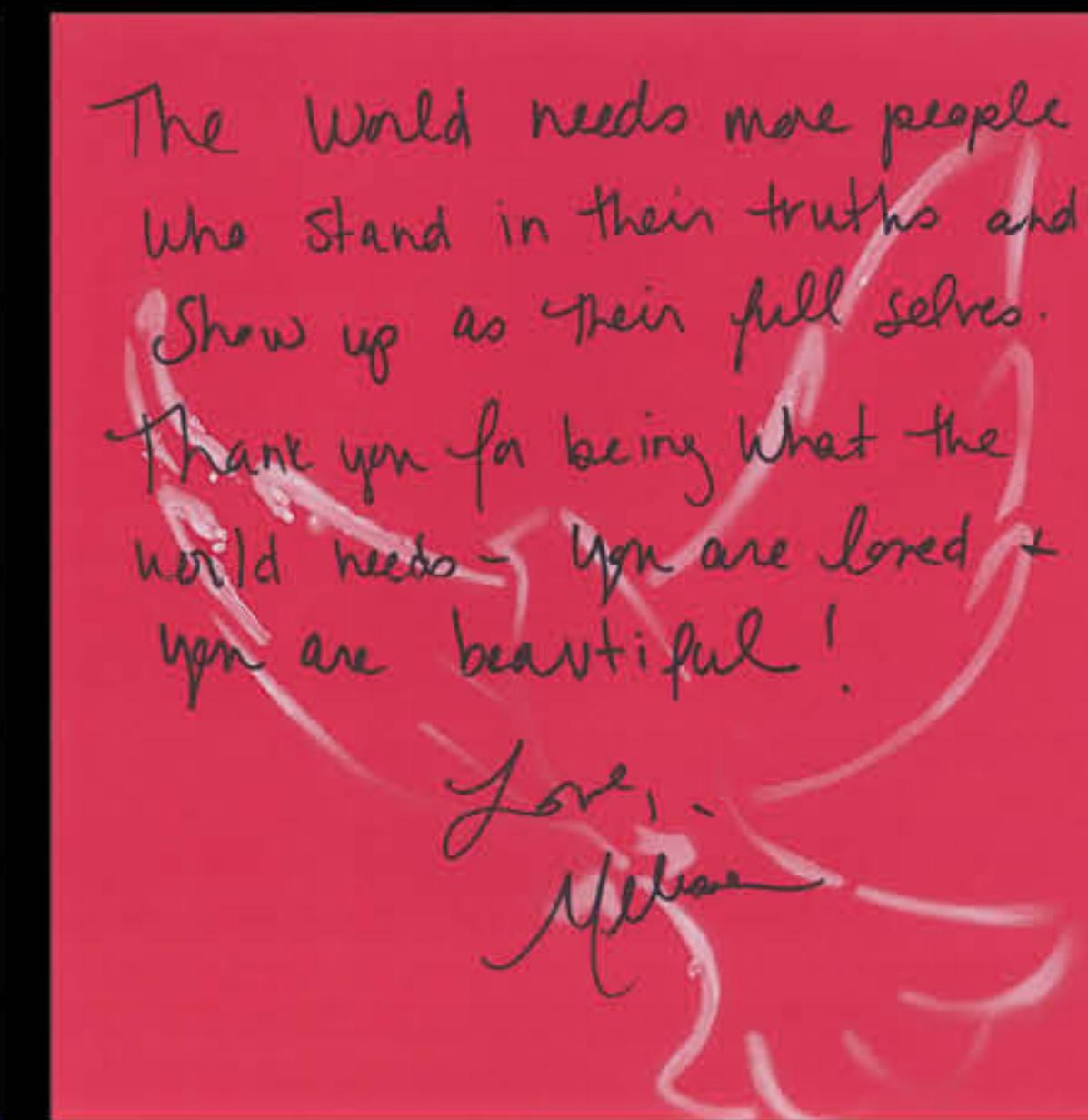
with LOVE

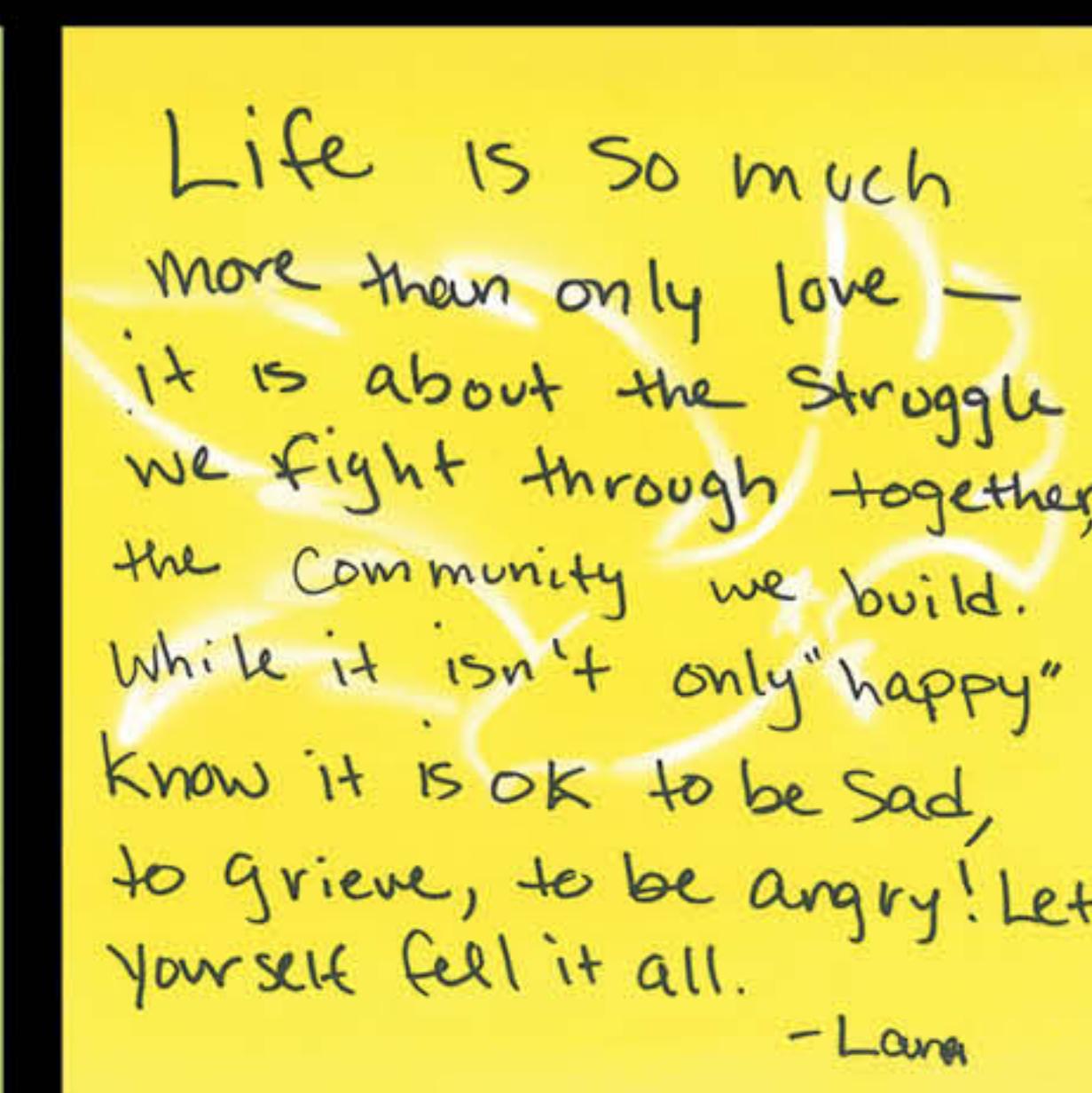
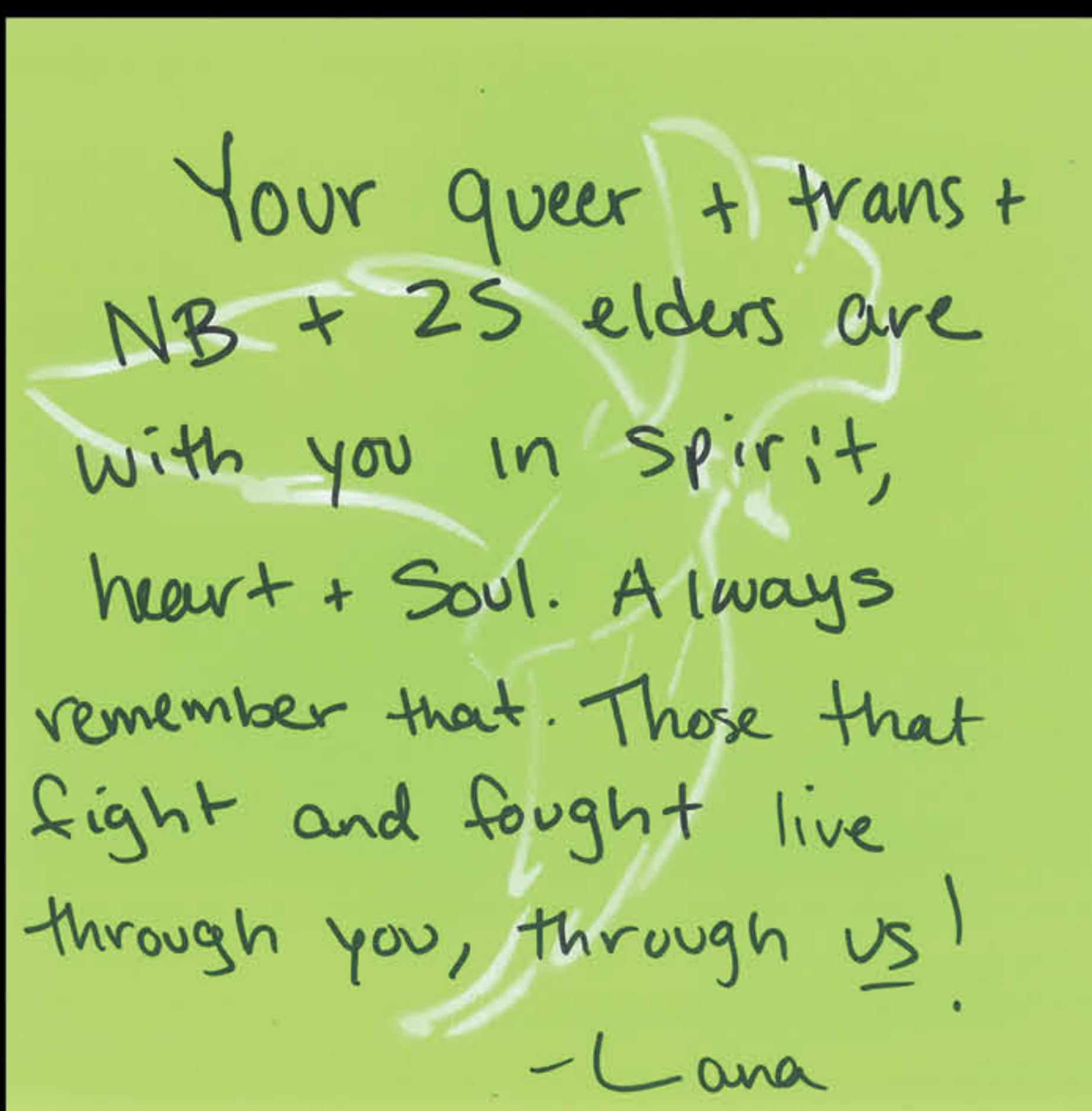
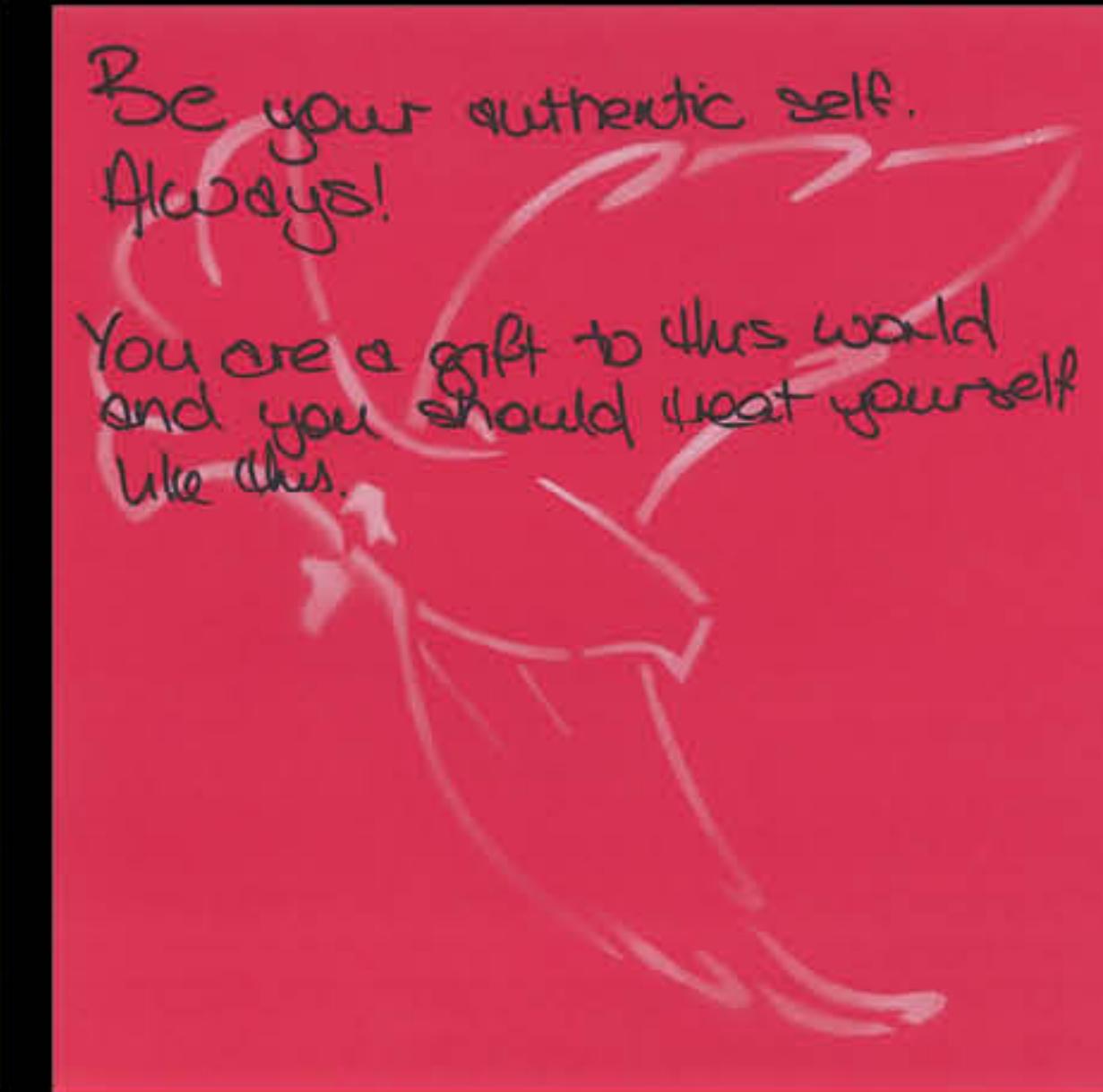
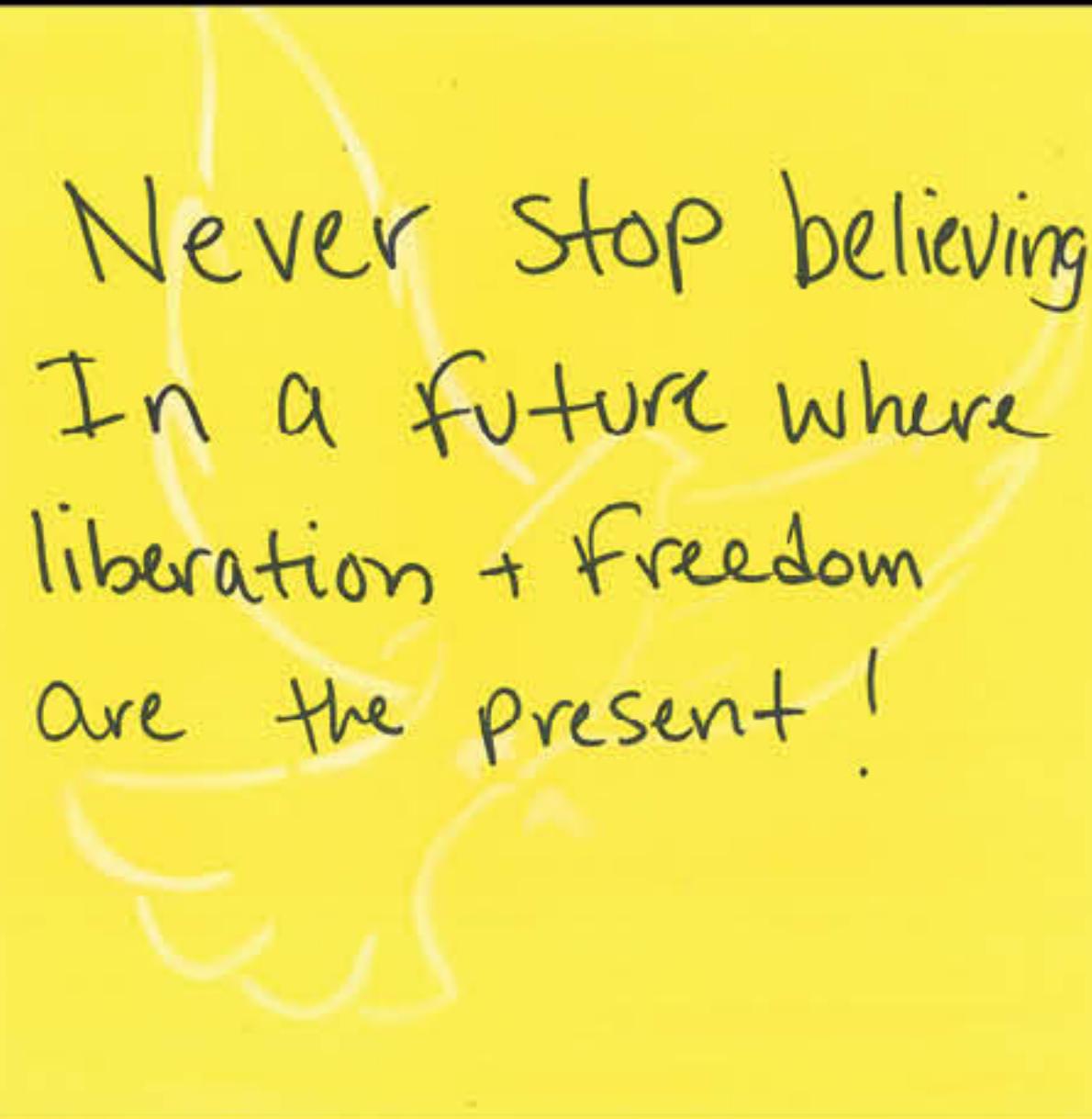


Letters of Hope

with LOVE







DO NOT LET ANYONE
OR ANYTHING GET IN
THE WAY OF YOUR DREAM.

YOU ARE CAPABLE.
ONLY YOU HAVE THE ANSWER.
ONLY YOU CAN CREATE THE
LIFE YOU DESERVE.

Dear lovely people of
OKlahoma!

Don't lose hope. You are more
valuable than you even know. One
day you will look back at today
& smile knowing how far you've
come. Tomorrow is a brighter day.


Andrei
Acosta

No matter what the world
may be going through know
you are worthy of good things,
good times and all the
beautiful things that the world
holds. People love you and
keep shining!
- Gary

Dear beautiful soul

I
Love
you

TRANSWorld
Atlanta

Melik
Brown

YOU ARE
LOVED,
BEAUTIFUL,
STRONG &
PERFECT!

BE YOURSELF!
Love yourself!
HAVE LOVE YOUR LIFE!
Xoxo
Serrf


You are beautiful in your
skin, just as you are!
Keep fighting to find safety
until you find people who love
& support you - THE COMPLETE
AND REAL YOU!

Hold onto hope that you can find
joy and safety one day if you keep
searching & fighting! You are
LOVED... by people you don't even know
yet!
- Patrick Custer
Tennessee

You were made from LOVE.

WHILE life is hard and
the darkness deep, Nothing
should dim your light.

Shine! Shine for yourself!
Shine! Shine for the gods!
Don't allow fear to take
you.

You are loved and always
have been.

It wasn't until I was in college
that I met an out-bisexual woman in
her 50s who was also Black like me.
I was shocked to see someone that age
out and proud. Please know that your
Queer Elders exist!!! We made it and
you will too. You are loved. You are
supported. We are HERE 

Dear Queer Trans Youth of Oklahoma,

Our hearts are with you during these trying
times. Your fight is our fight and we stand
with you in solidarity. Stay strong and may
your hearts/lives be filled with love.

 Luis Rosado

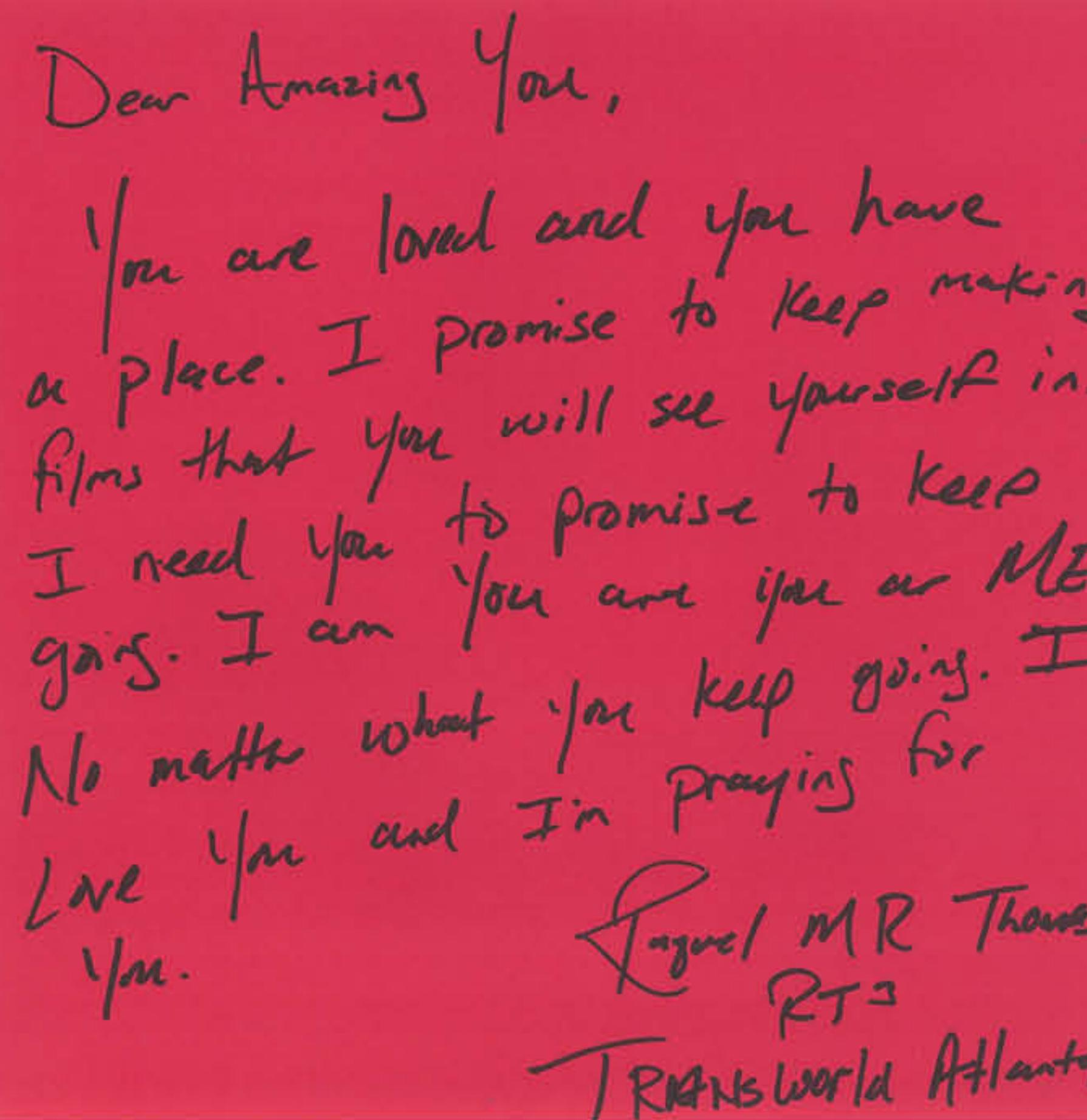
Dear kids,

You can be anything
you want! I have been
back for 50 years!

You are loved!

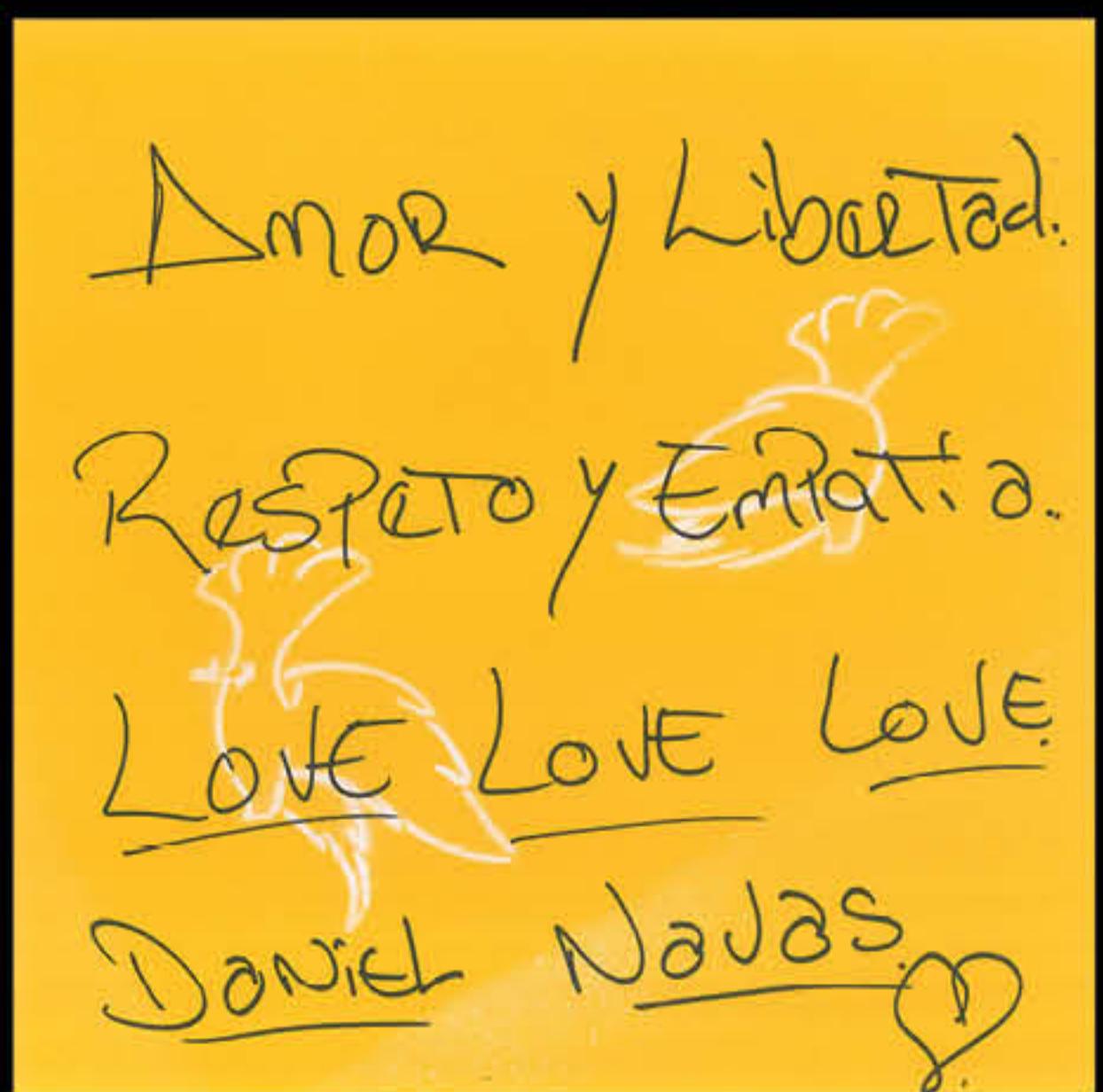
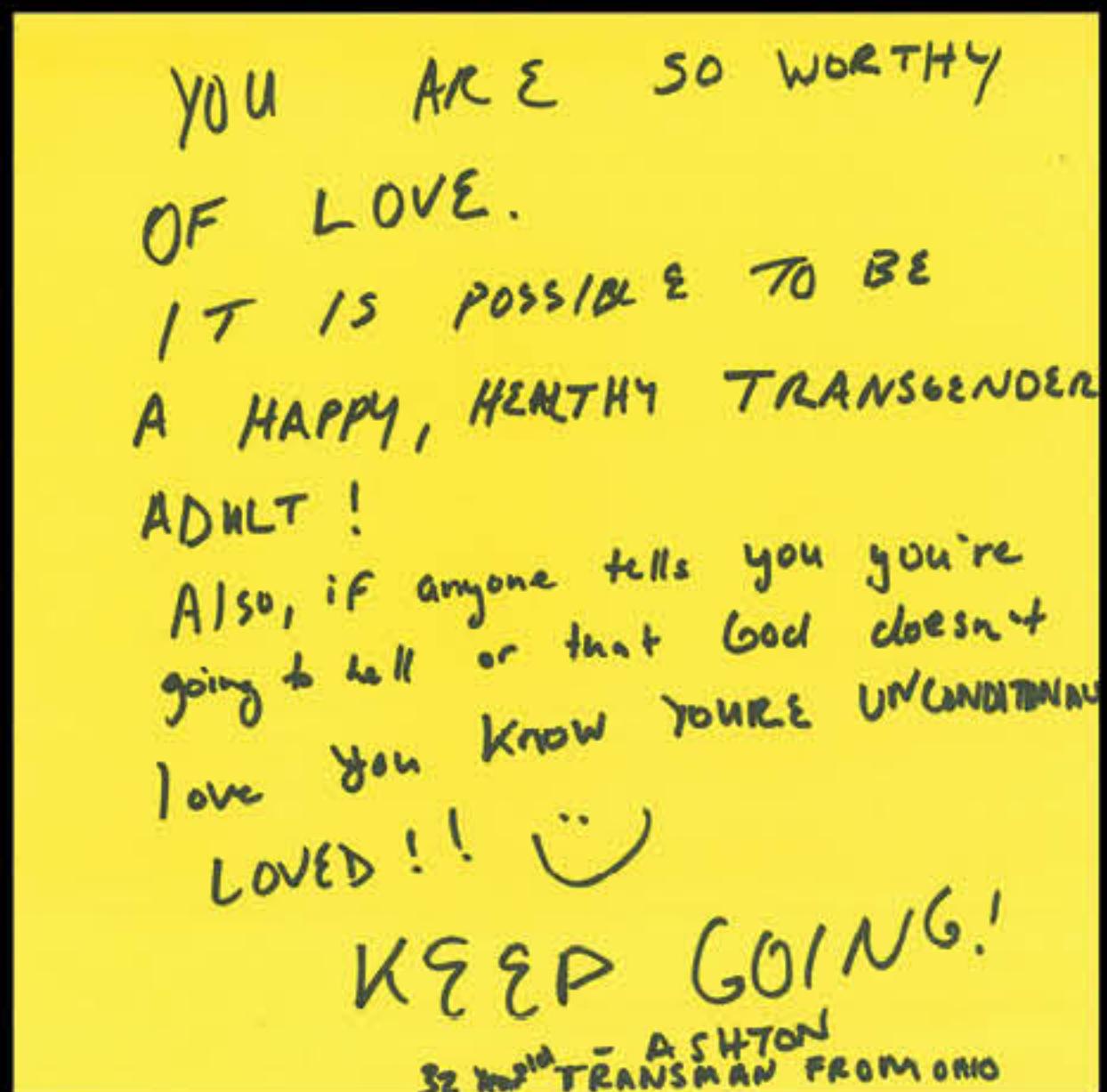
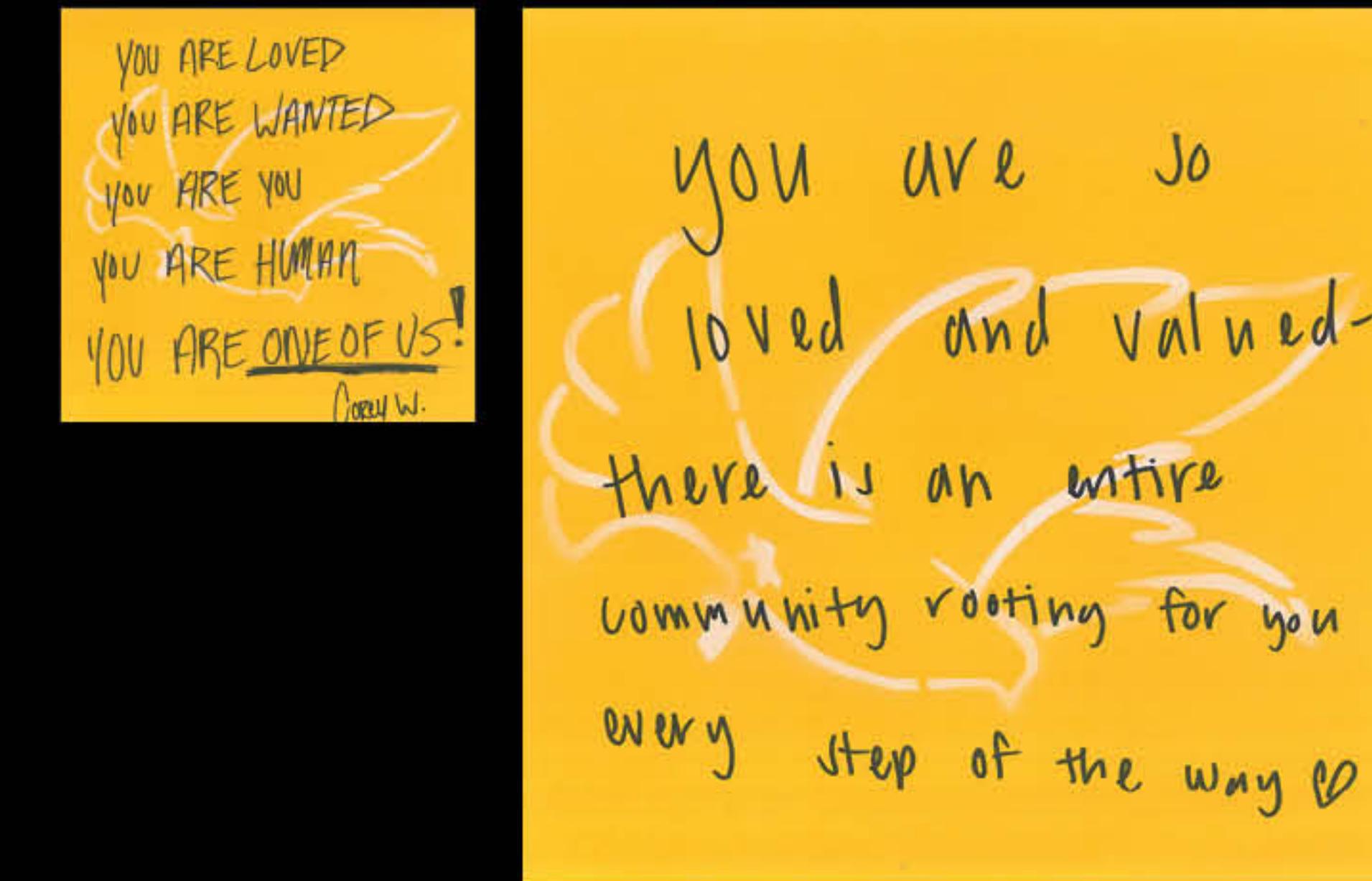
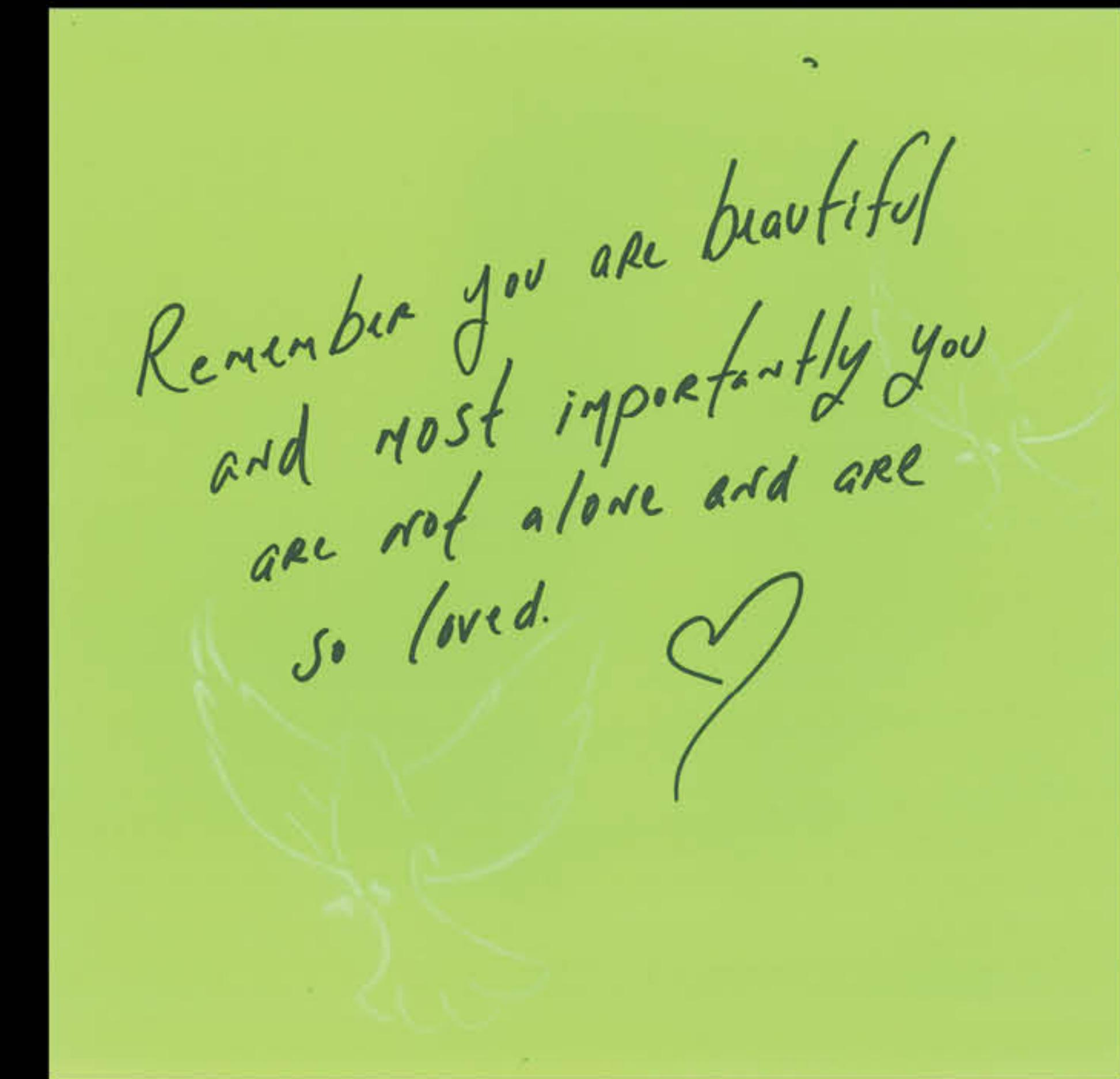
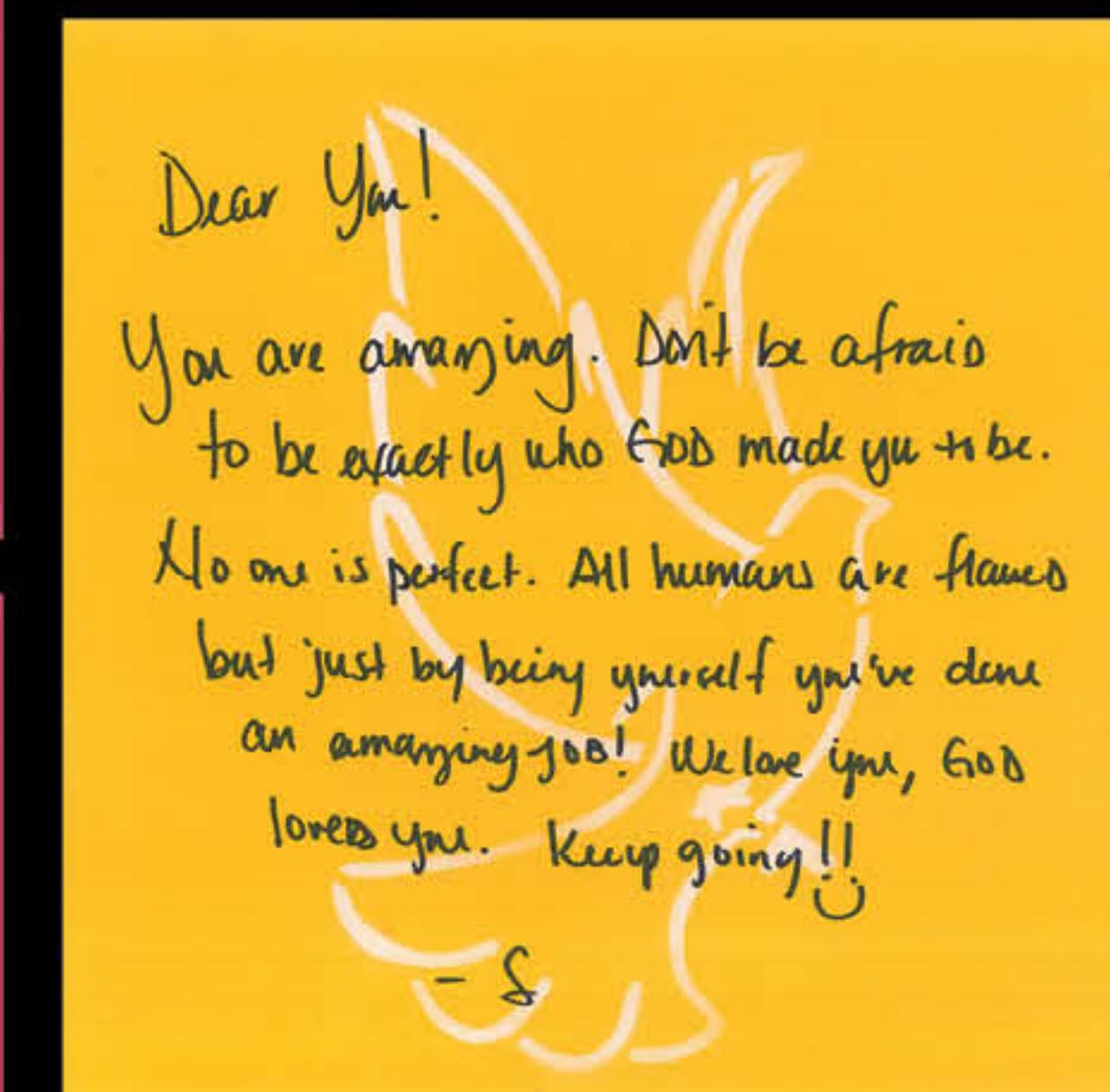
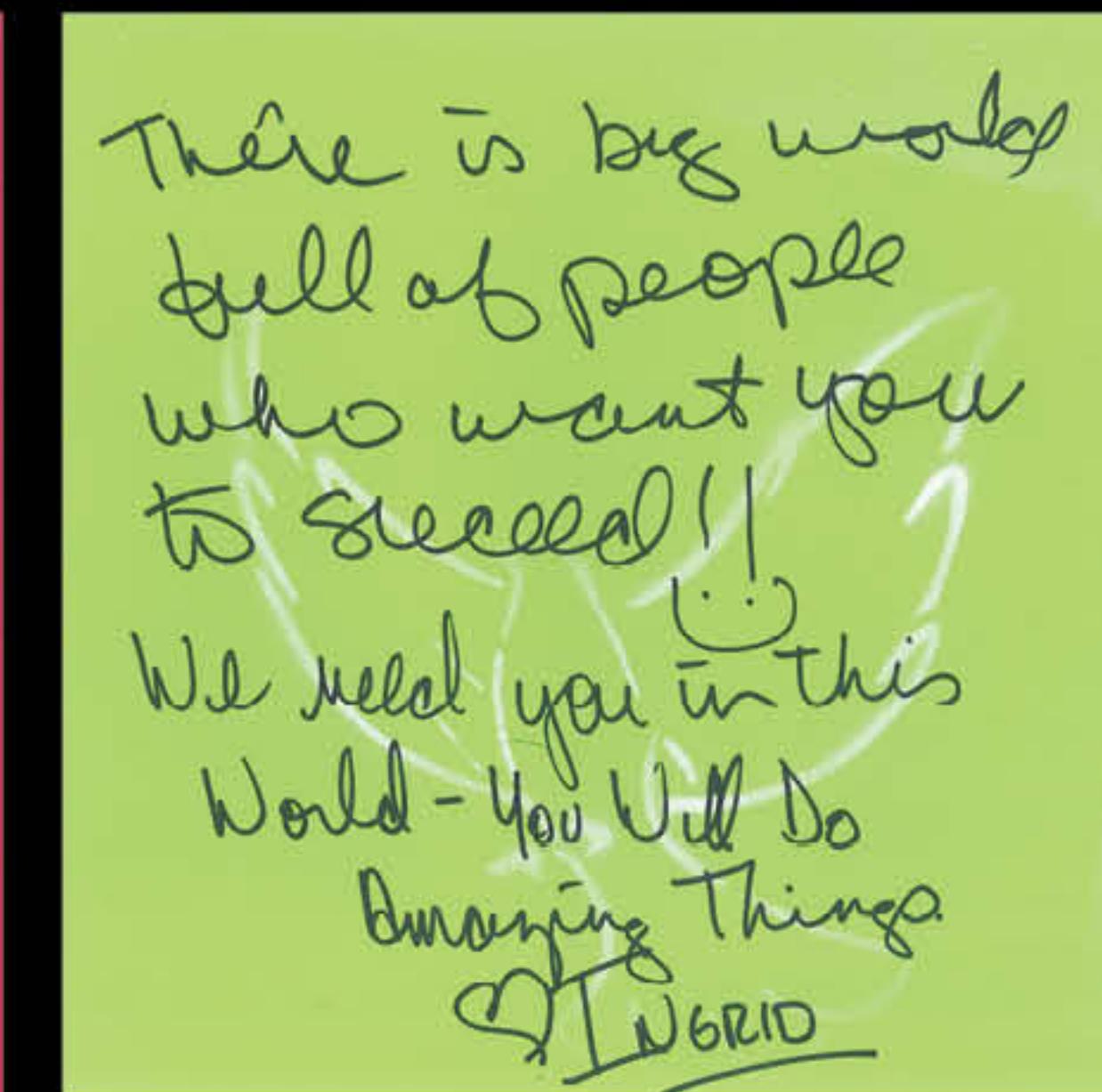
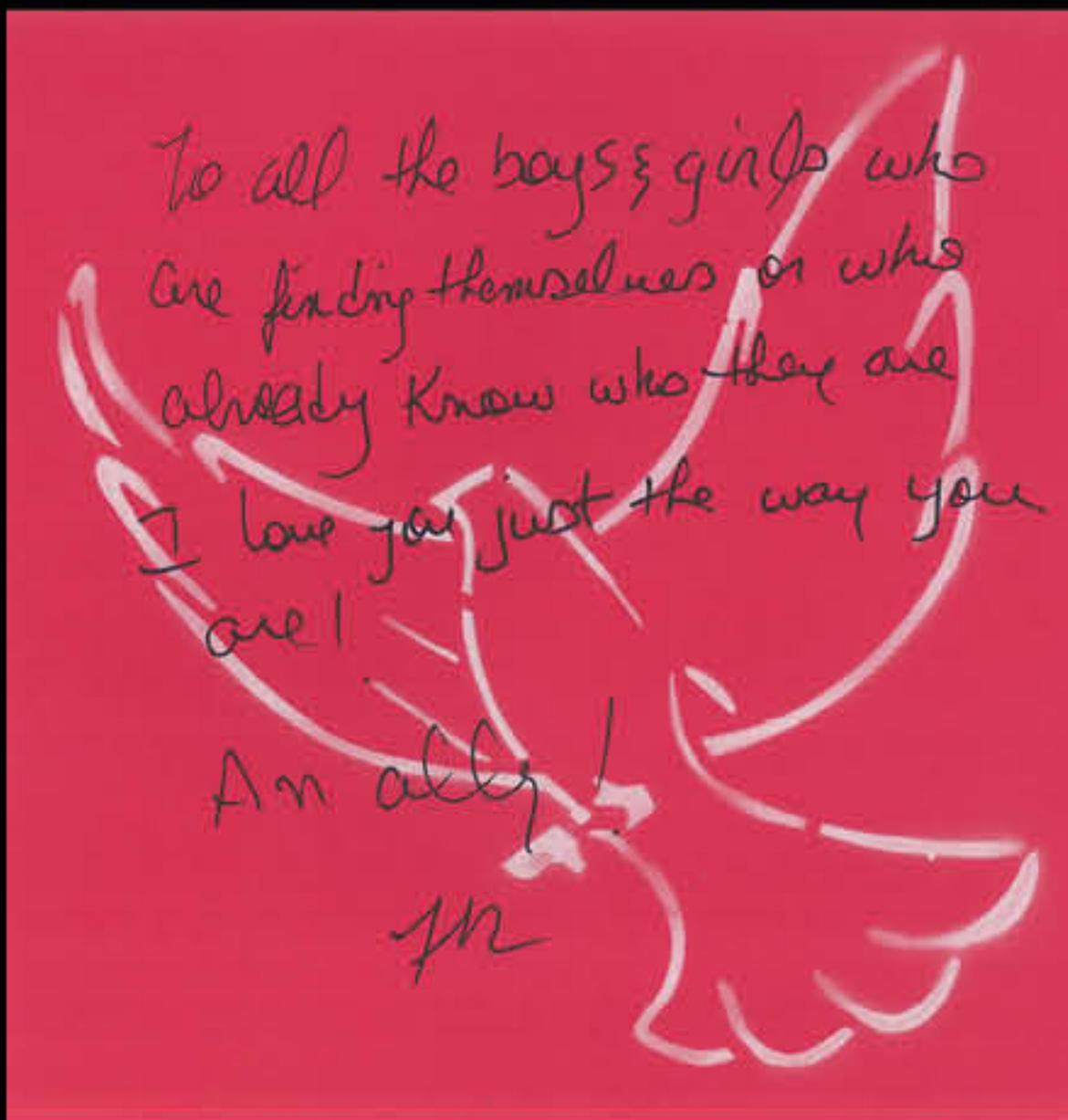
Joey

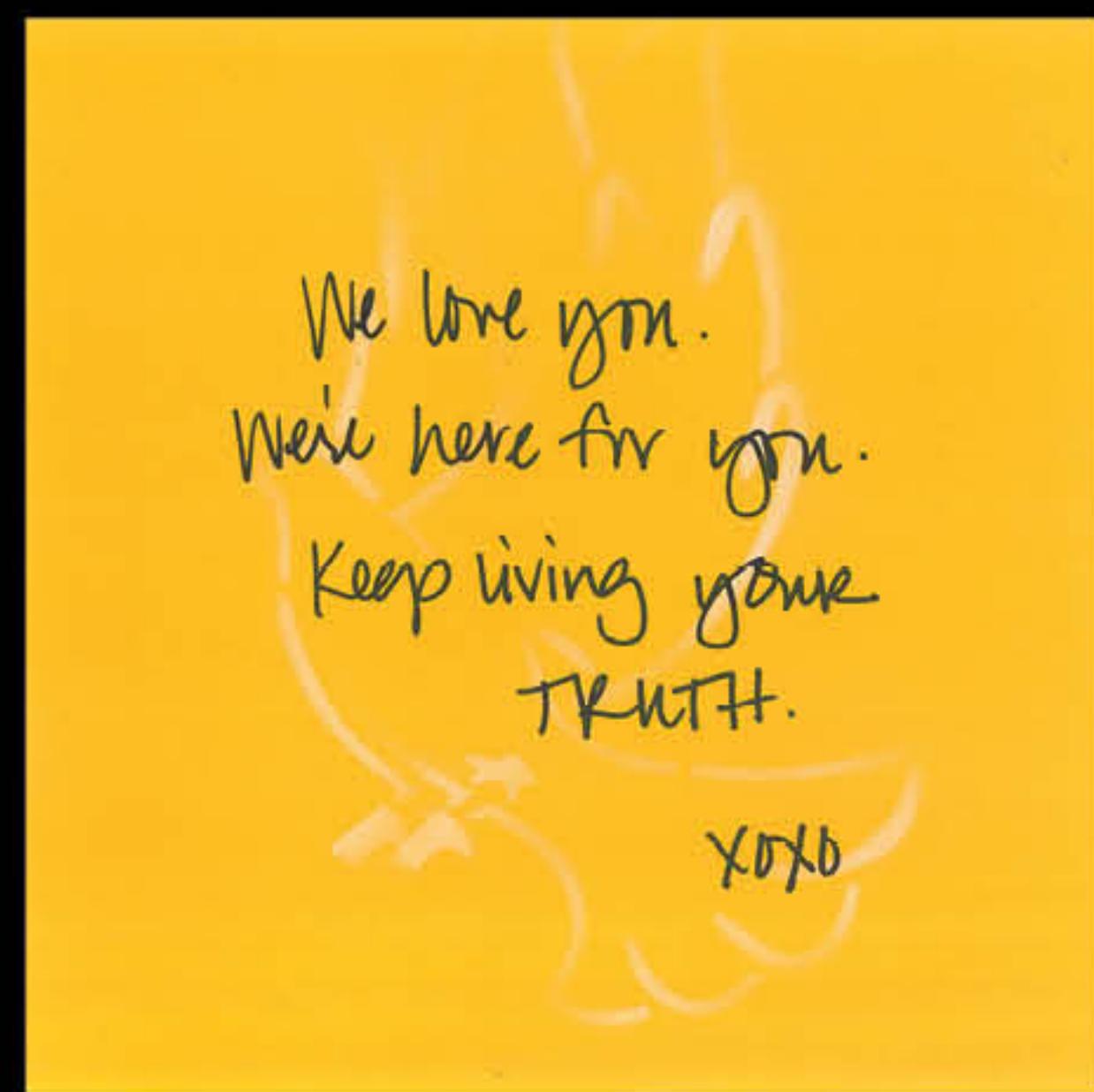
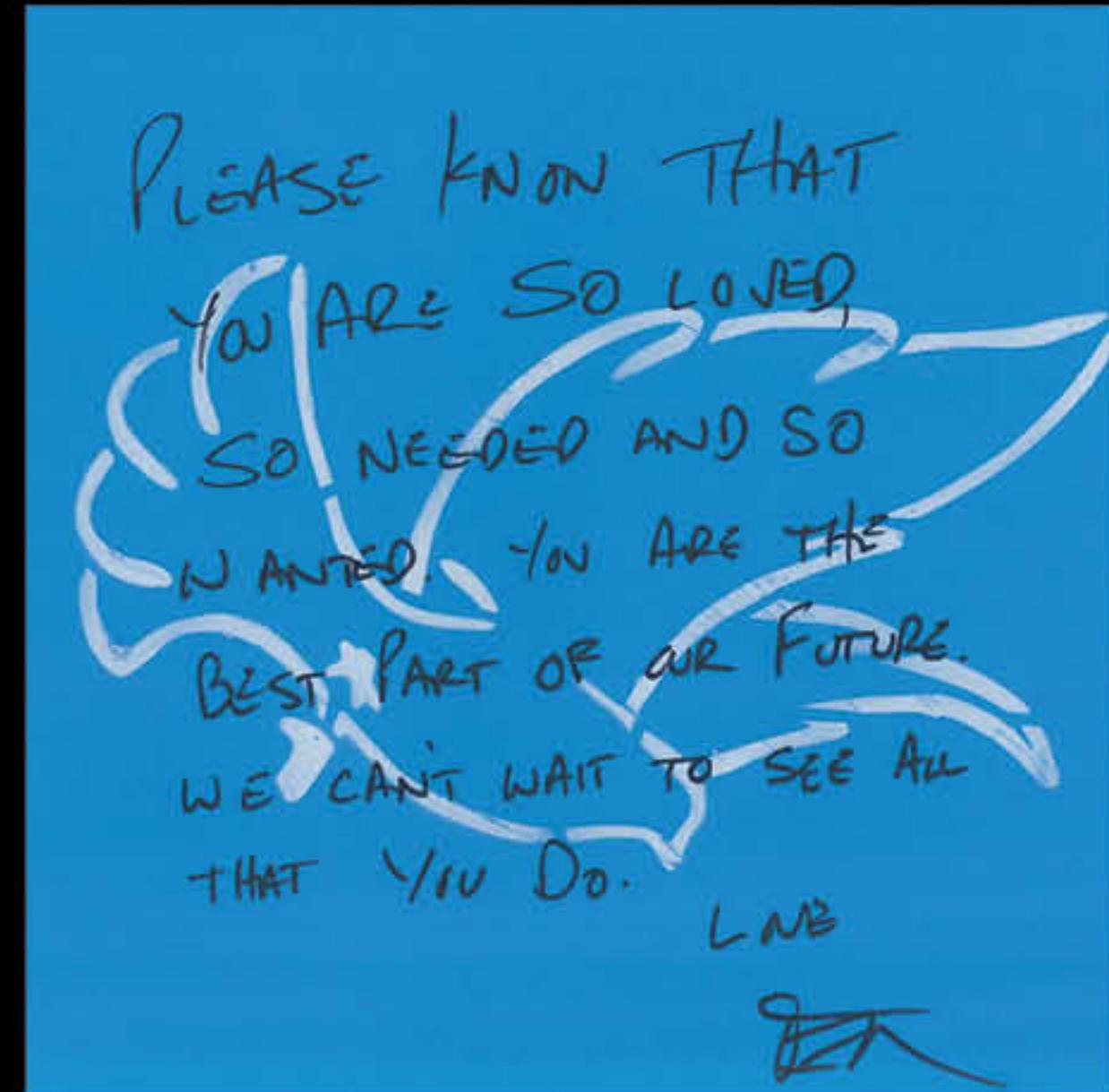
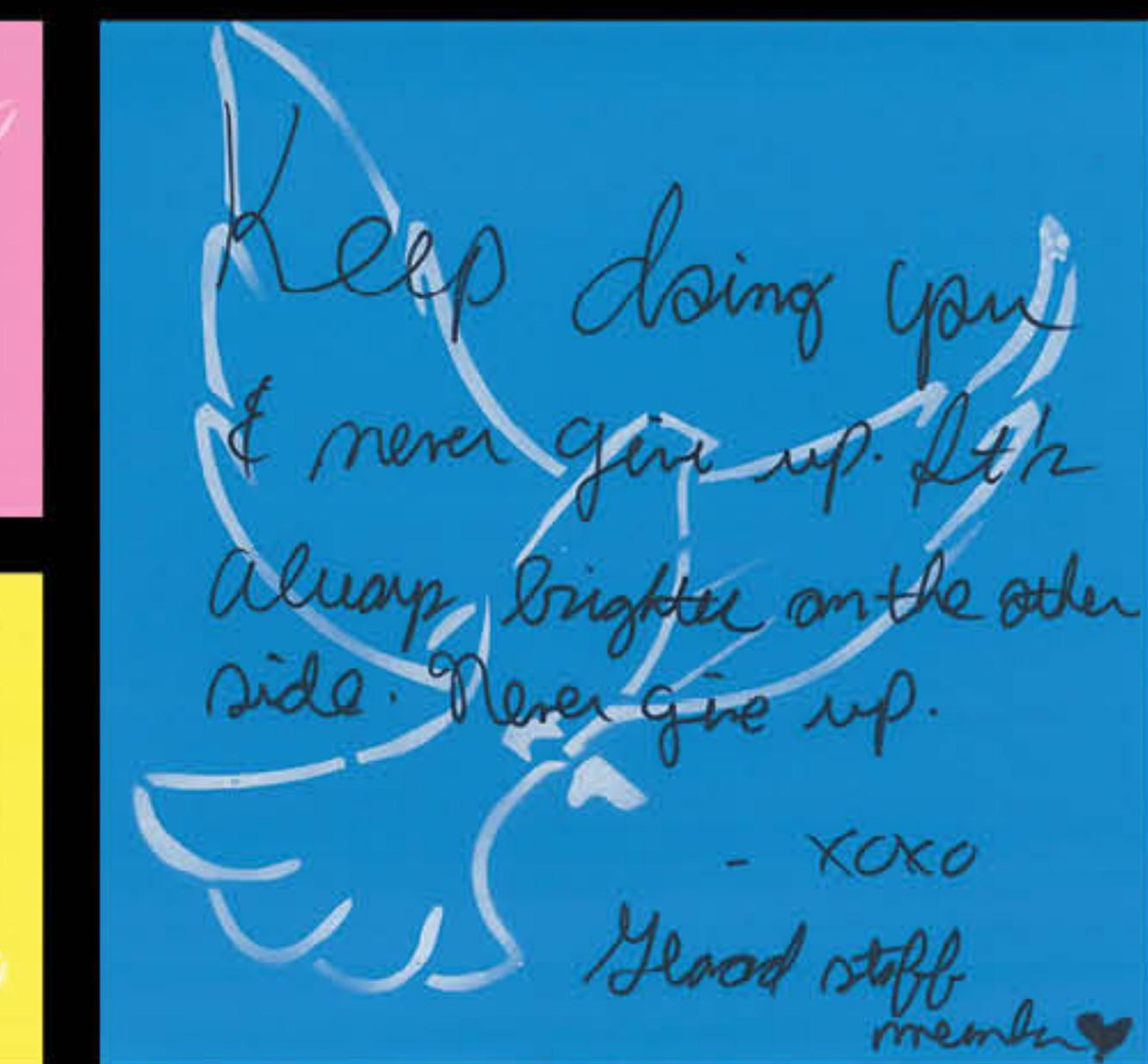
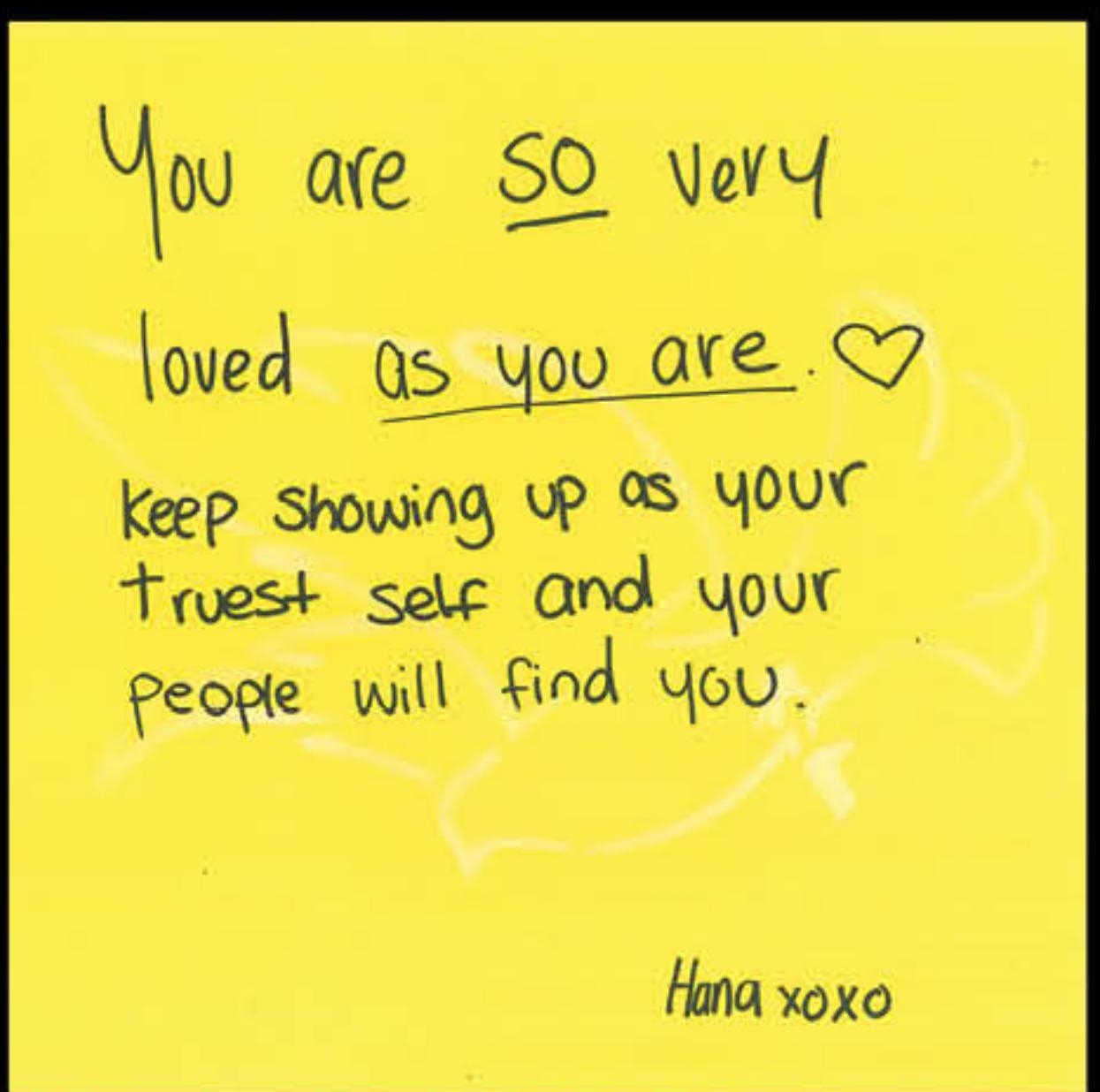
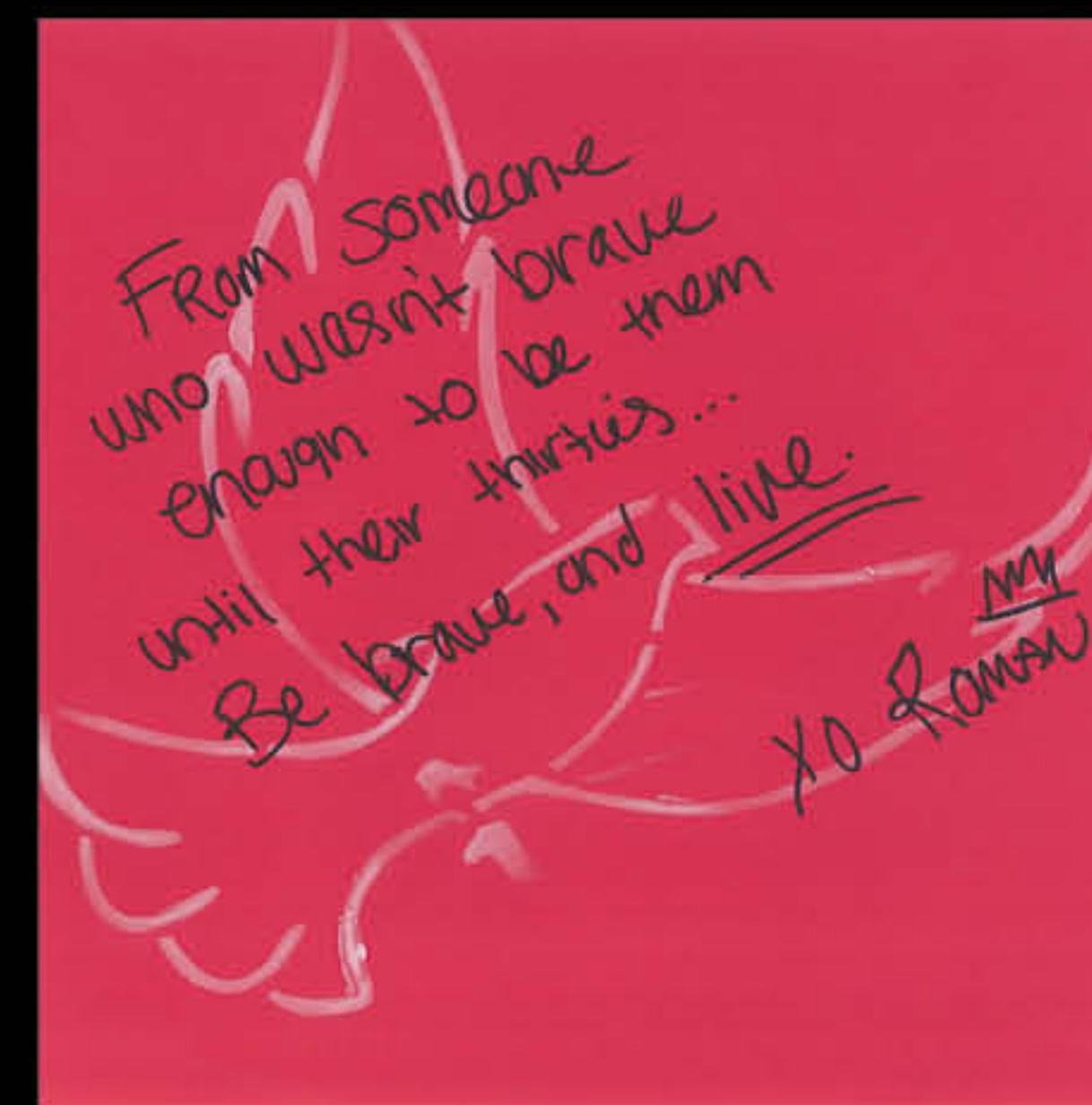
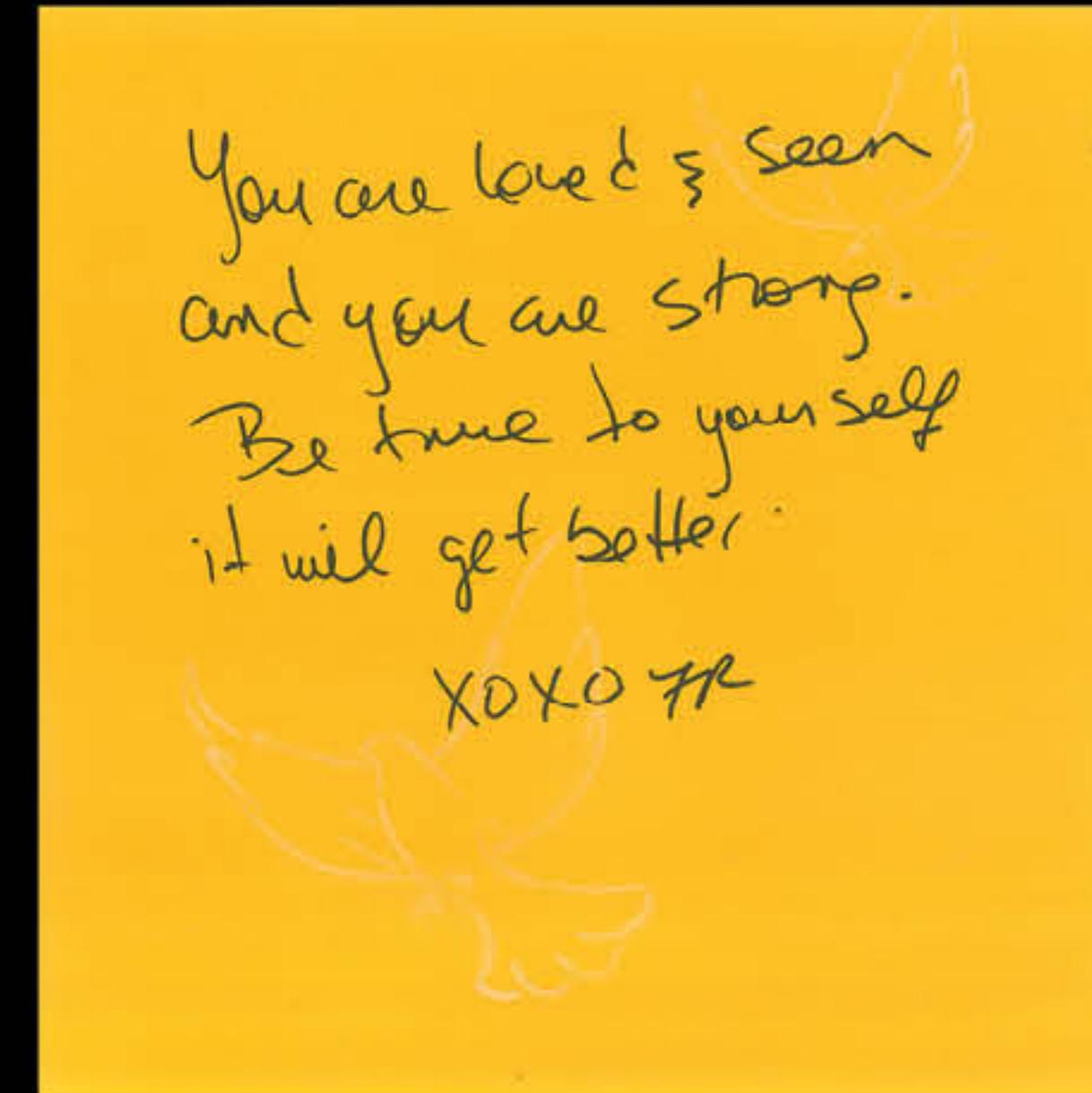
I AM A Black Trans
woman
What I know is That
Being Queer Gets
Greater later What
Ever You Do Hold On
We ARE here And we
Aint going anywhere
Love Always
Queen Mother Schieffel
TransWorld Atlanta



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ALL THE WONDERFUL AMAZING THINGS YOU ARE GOING TO BRING TO THE WORLD! YOUR UNIQUE SPECIAL THINGS ARE NEEDED AND IMPORTANT!

- Matt

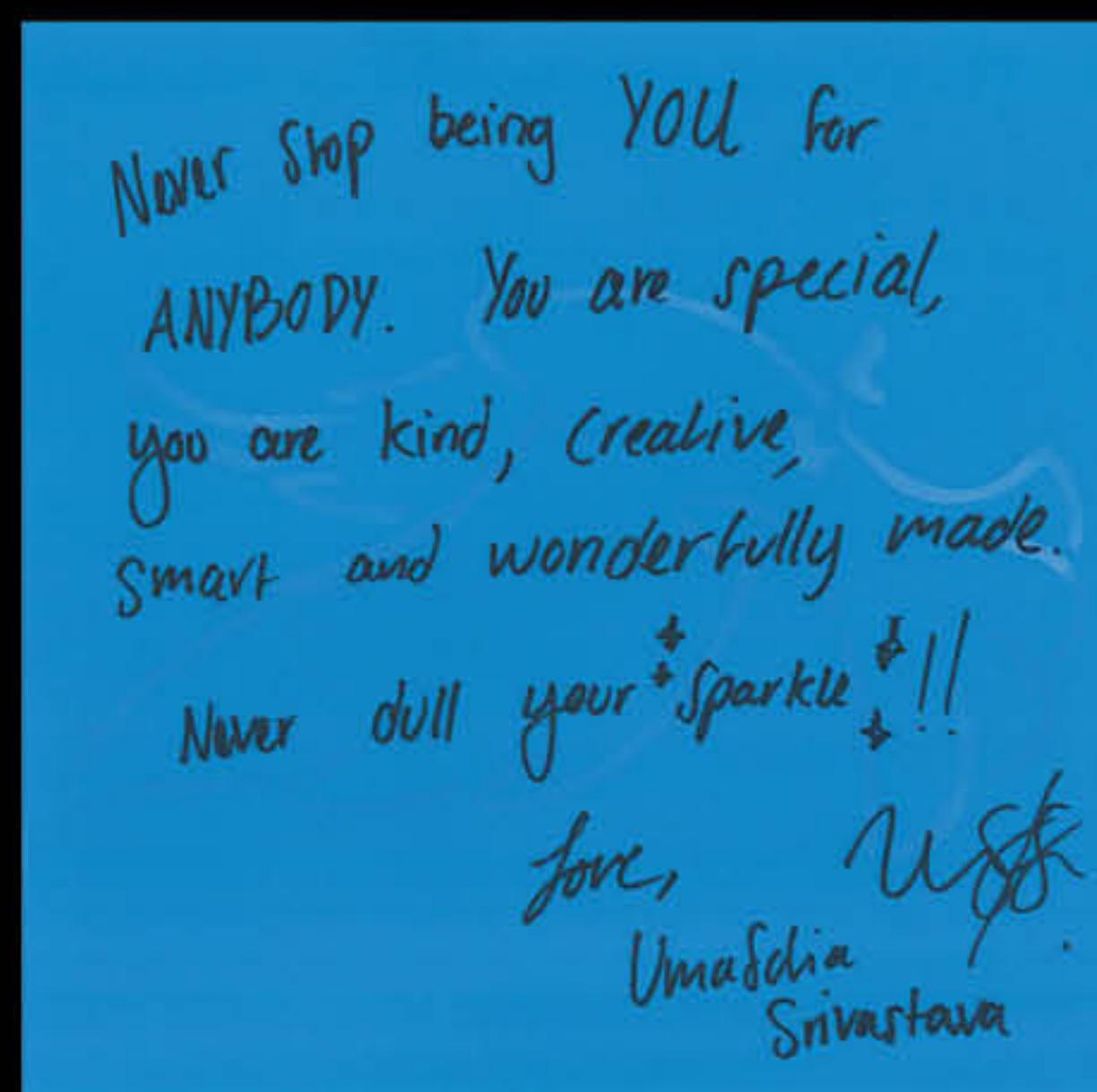
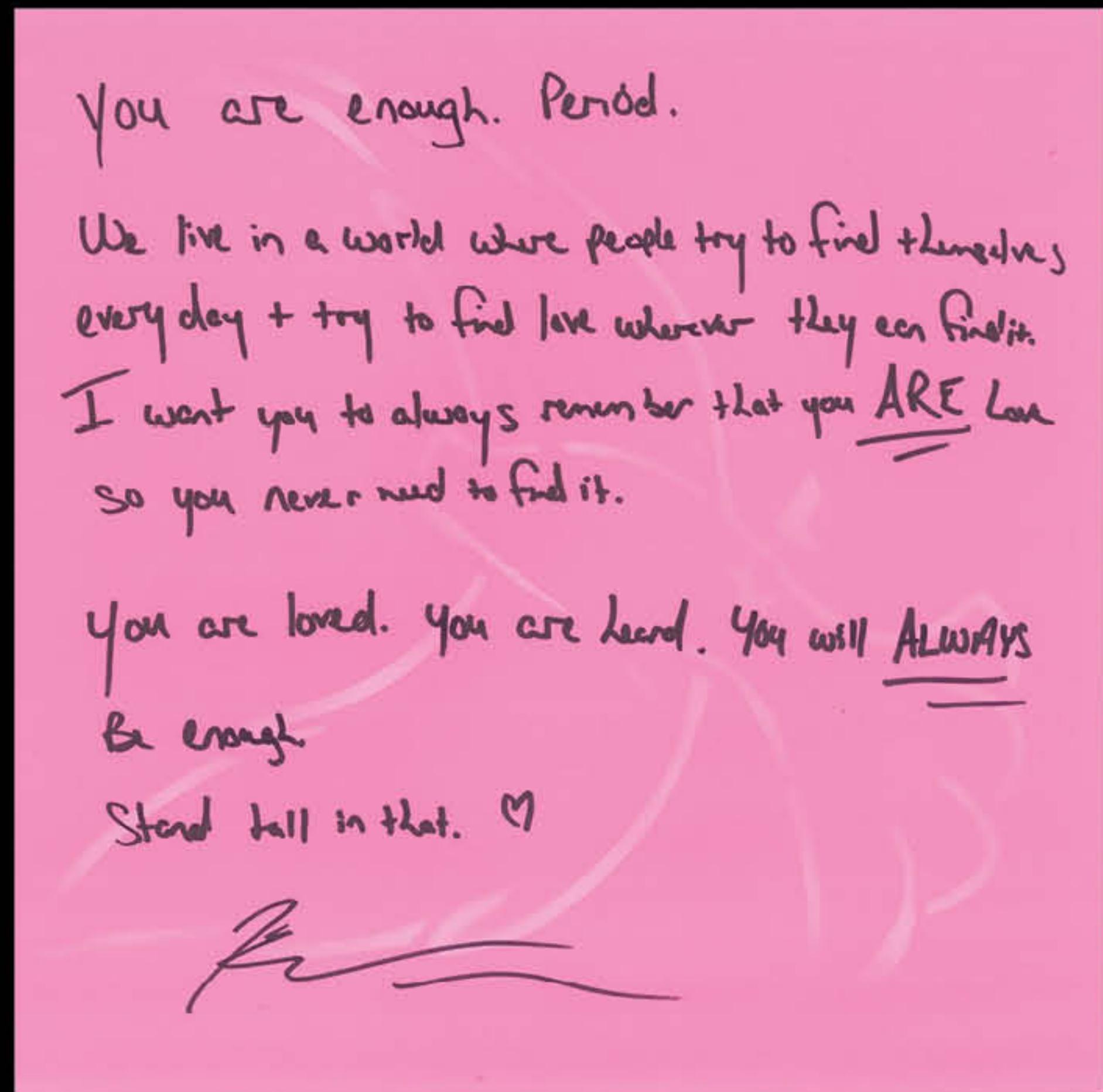
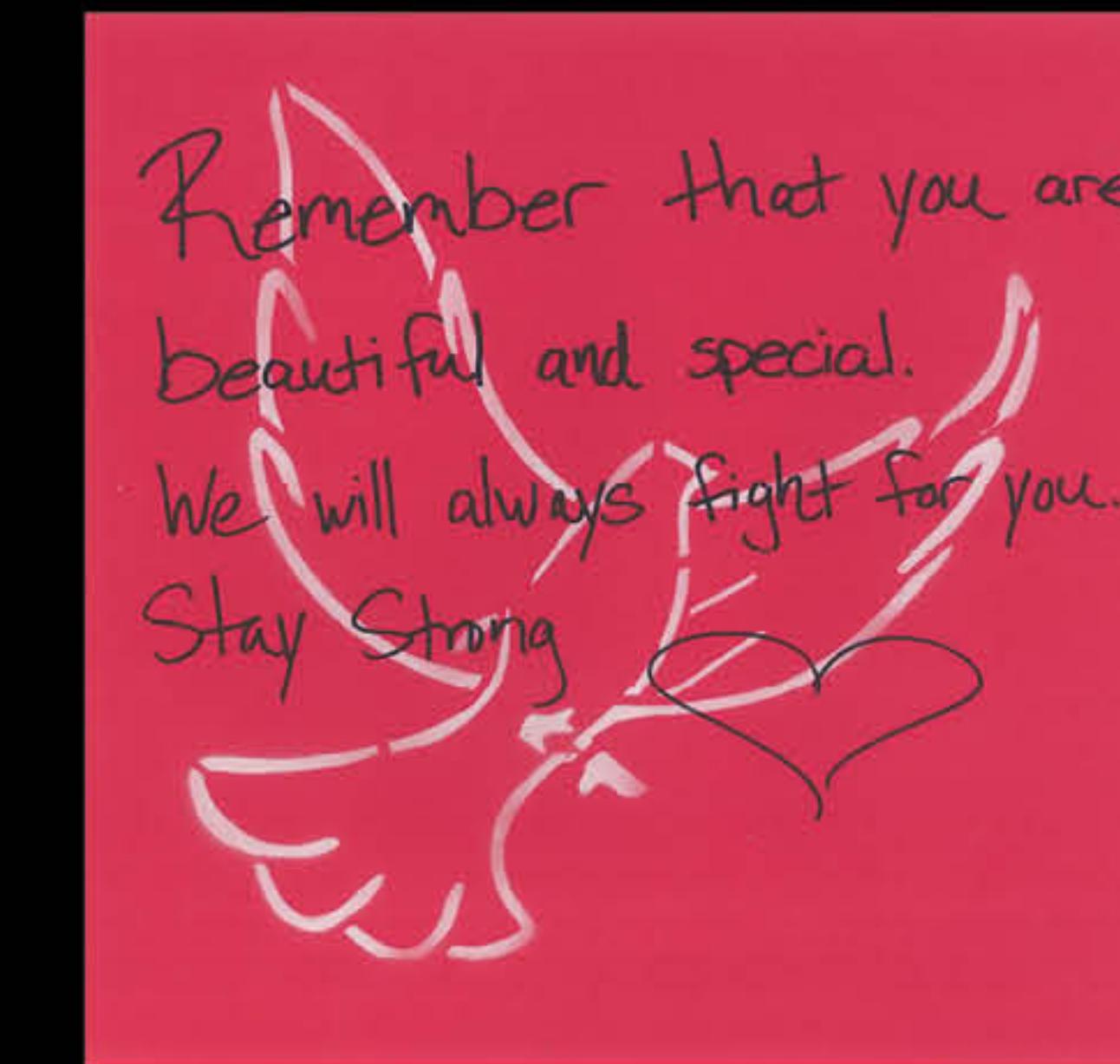
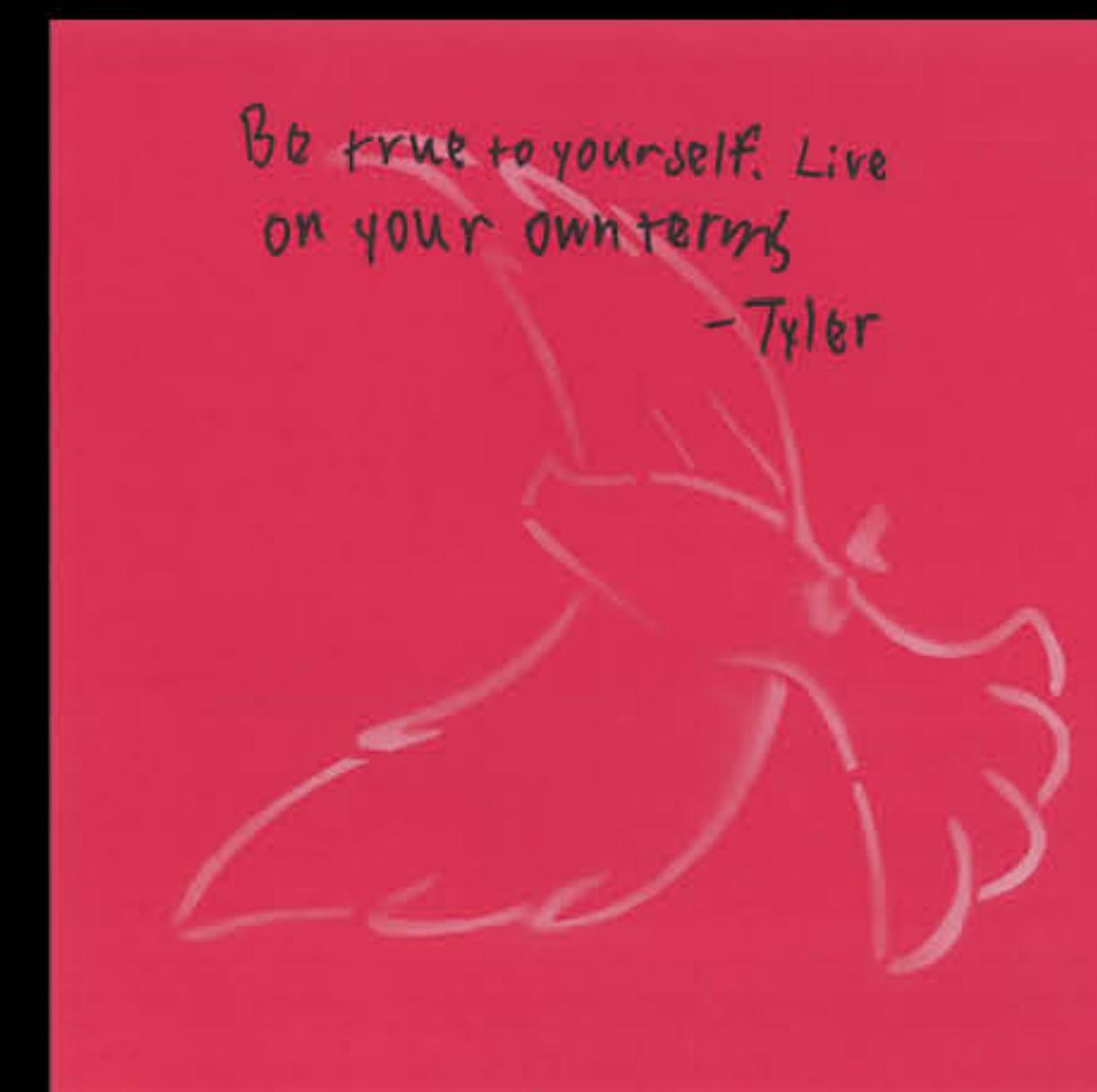
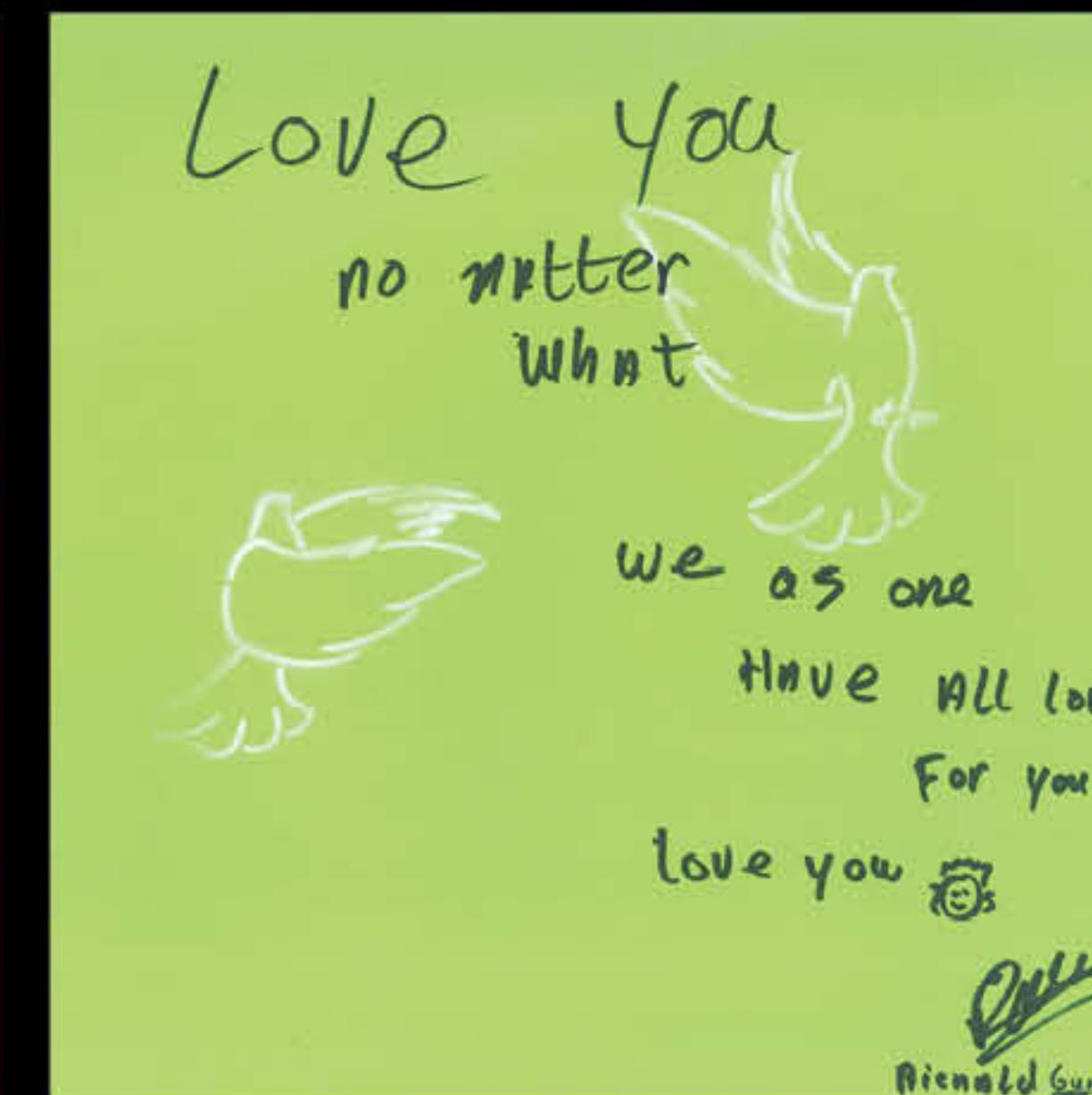


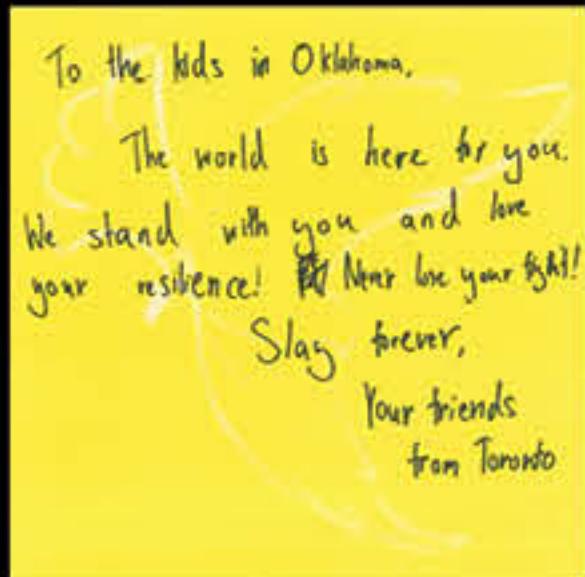


You are stronger, bolder
and braver than you know!!!
Your beauty shines brighter
than you can ever imagine!!!
Your existence is amazing
and necessary!!!

- Nell

It gets
soo much better.
I promise!
Keep going, your tribe
will find you!





ALWAYS KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE. KNOW THAT WE HAVE ALL BEEN IN YOUR SHOES AND IT WILL ALL BE OKAY. YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL THE WAY YOU ARE. NEVER FORGET.

NEVER CHANGE. NEVER GIVE UP.

BE YOU.

LOVE,
MADELINE

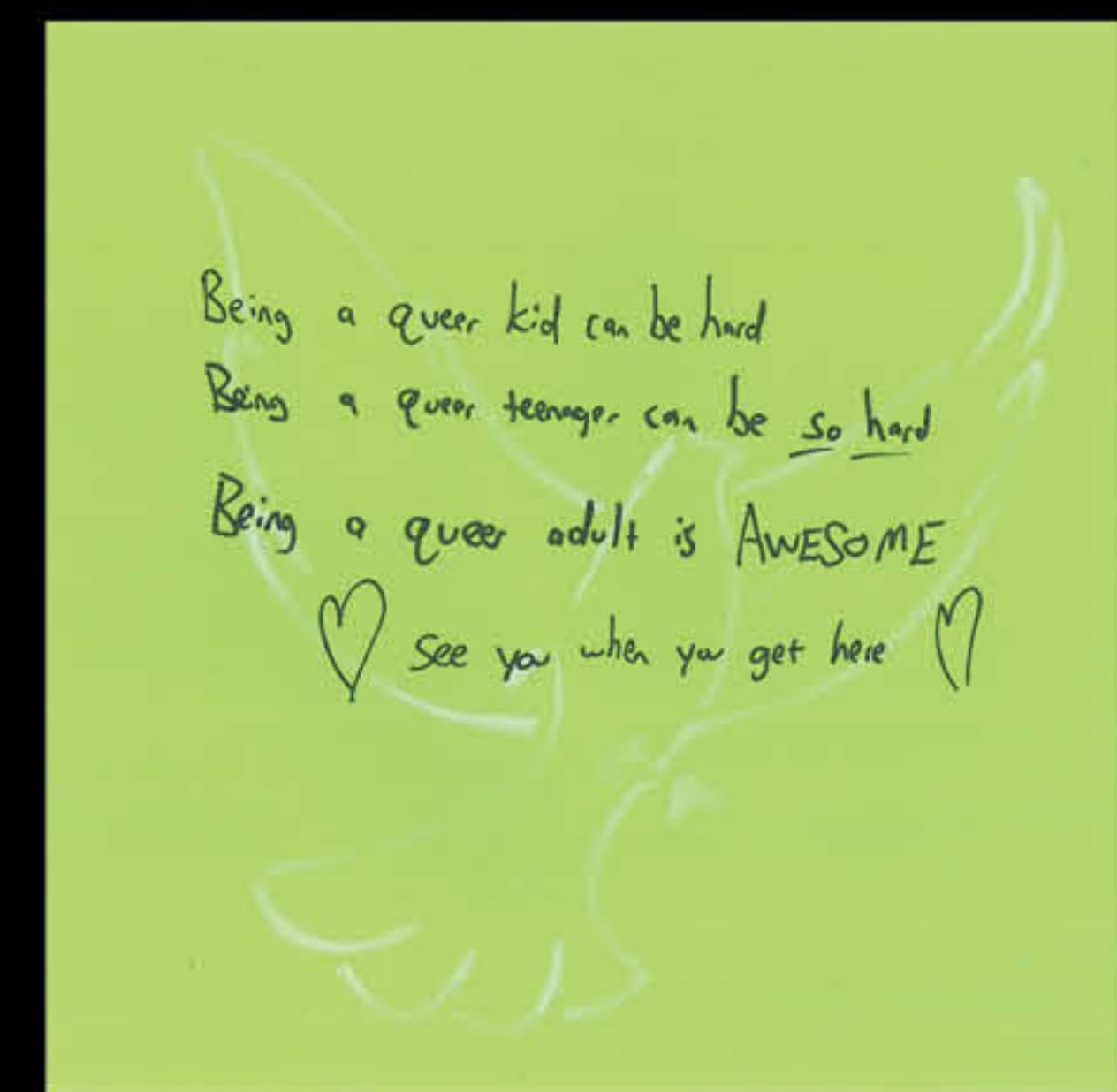
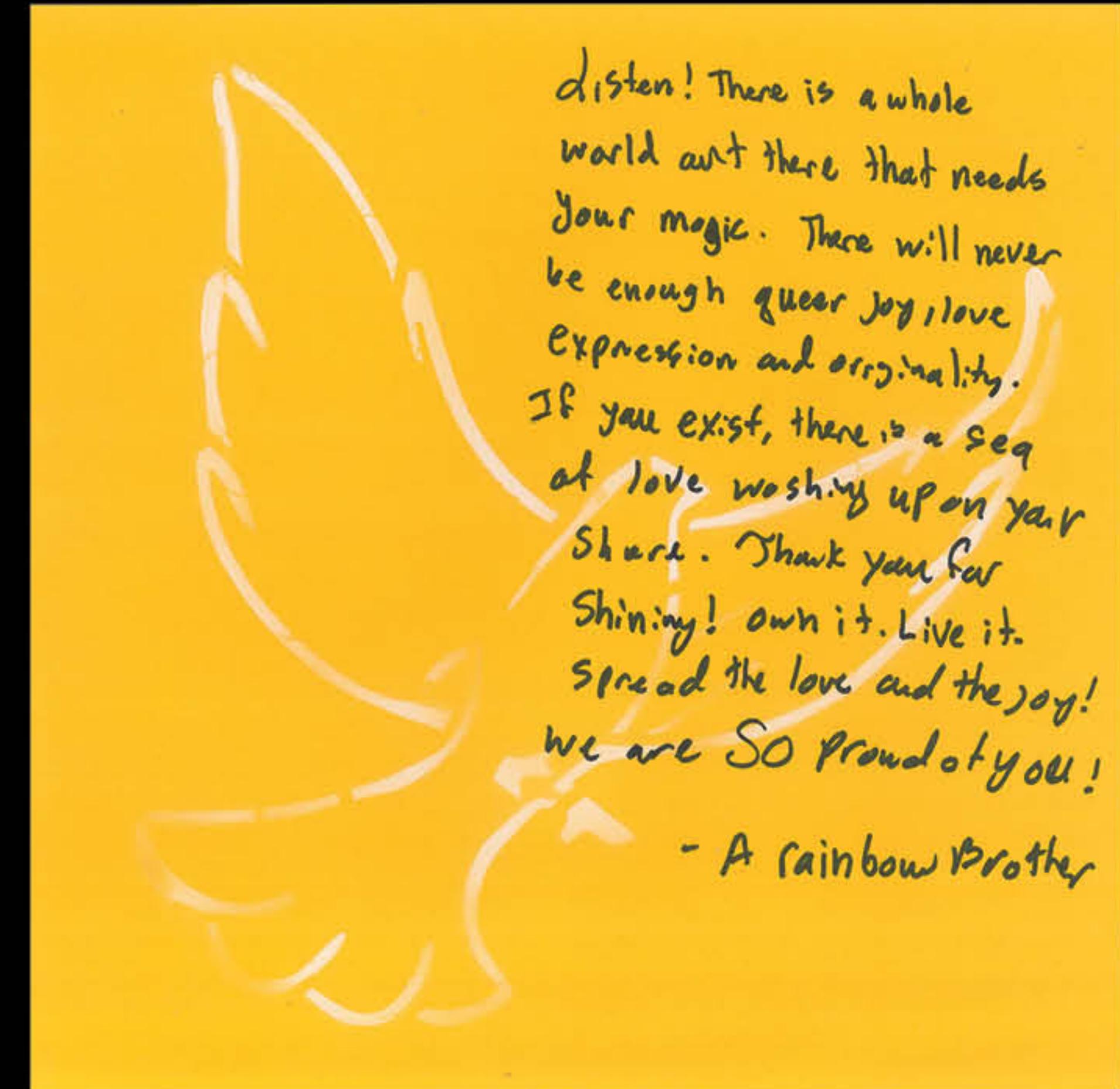
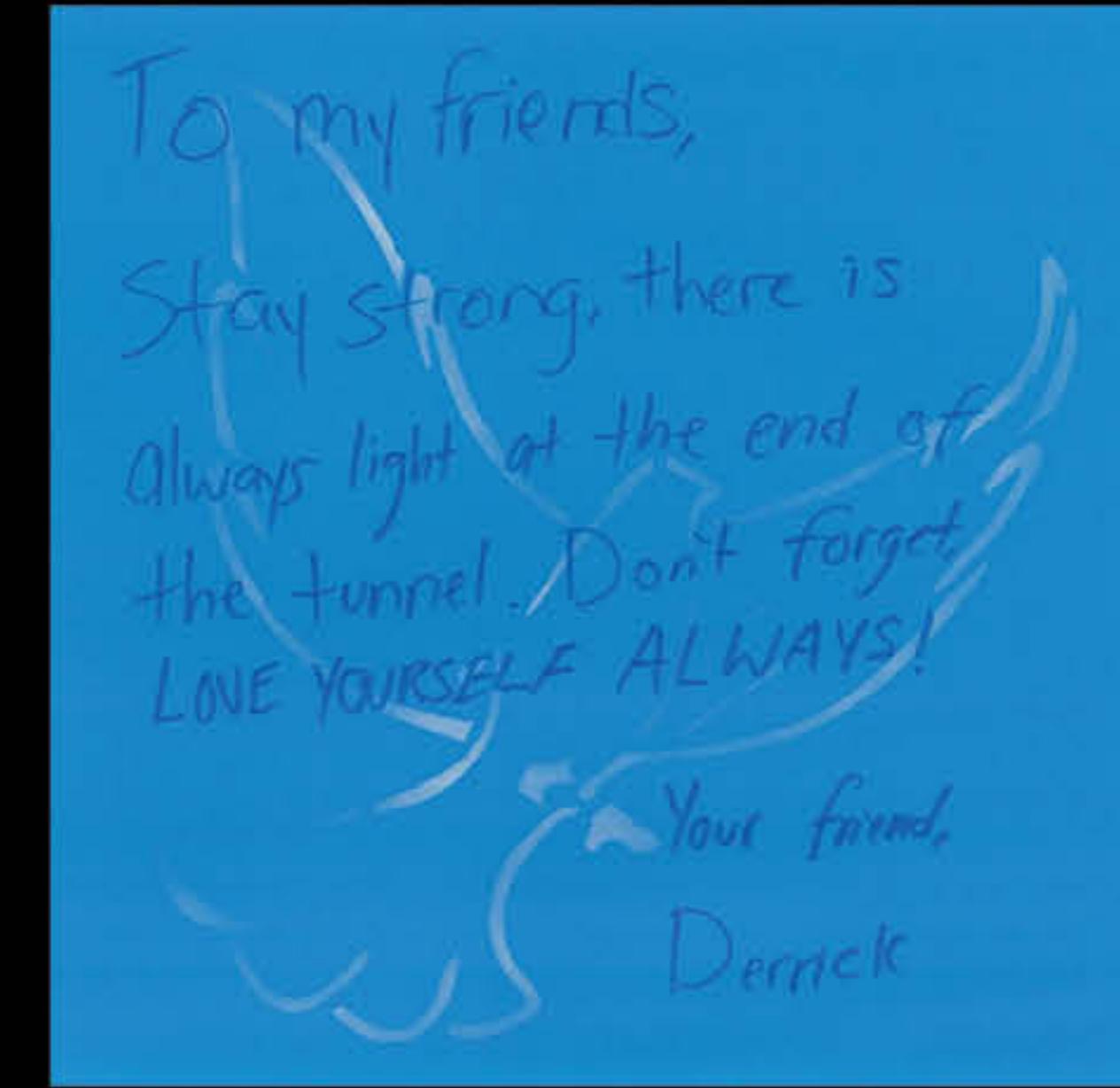
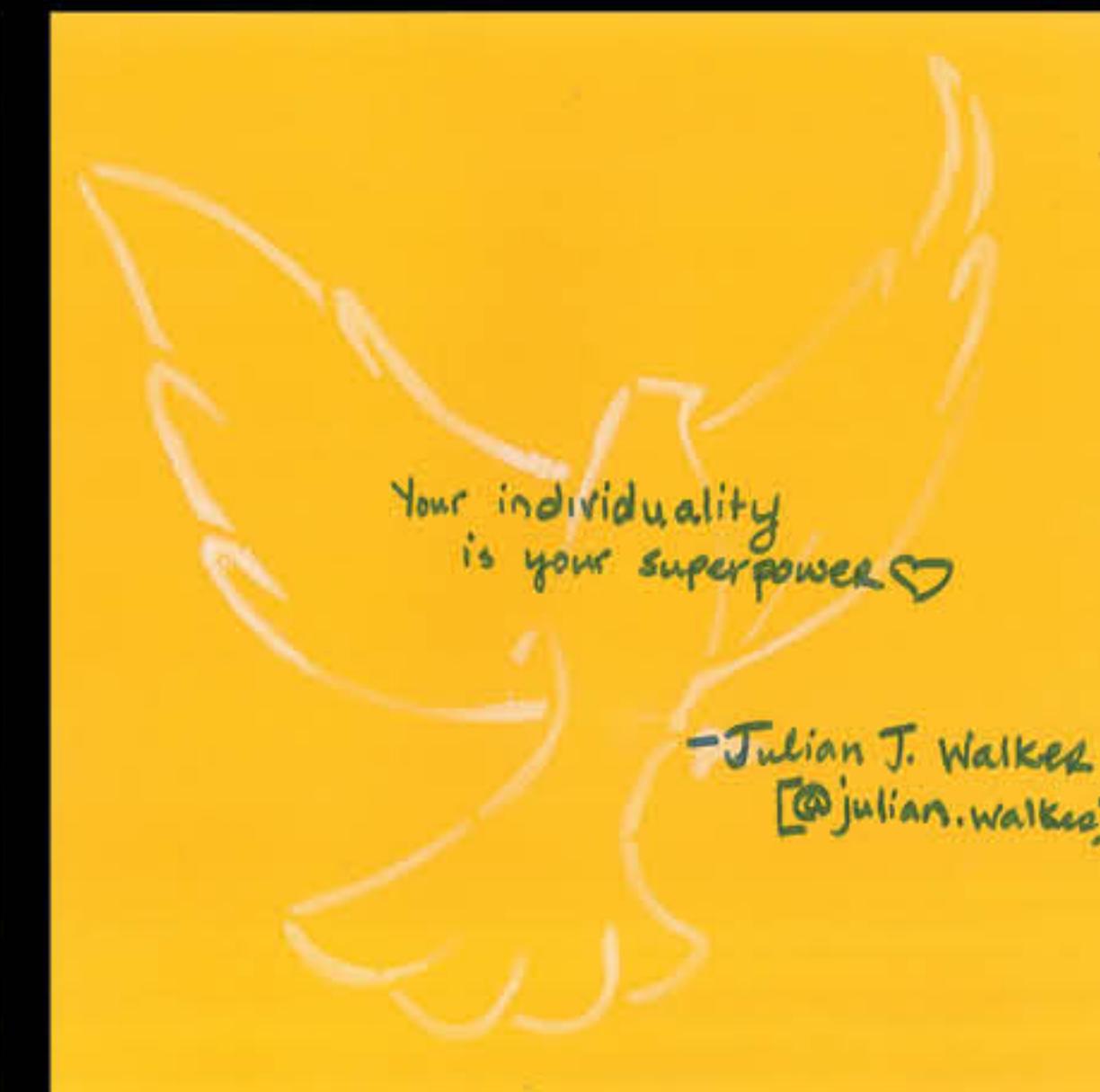
REMEMBER WHEN IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE ALL ALONE IN THIS FIGHT YOU'RE NOT!

YOU HAVE THE SHOULDERS OF SO MANY QUEER AUNTS & UNCLES THAT LOVE UNDERSTAND & SUPPORT YOU!!!

AND YOU ARE PERFECTLY MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

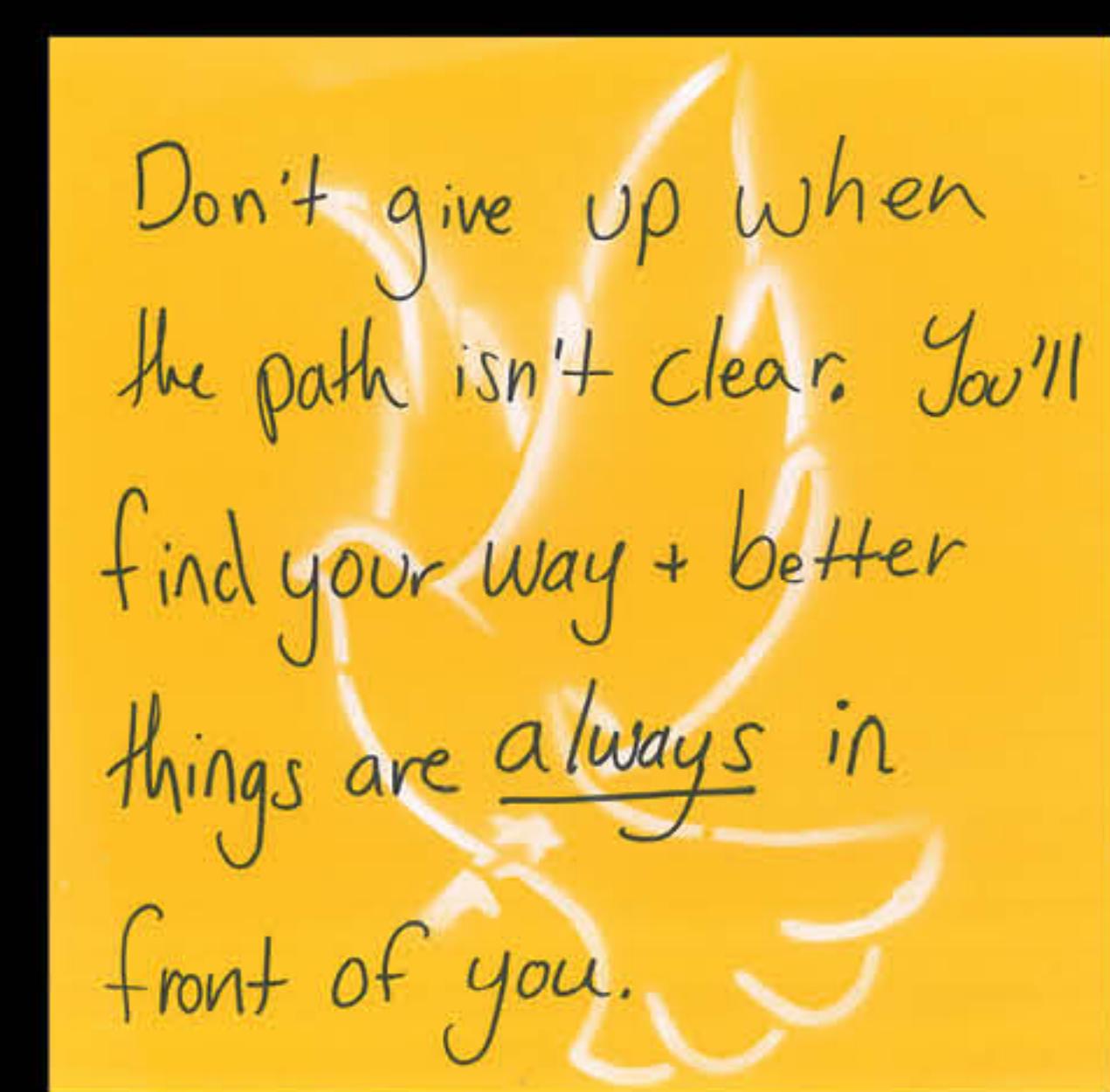
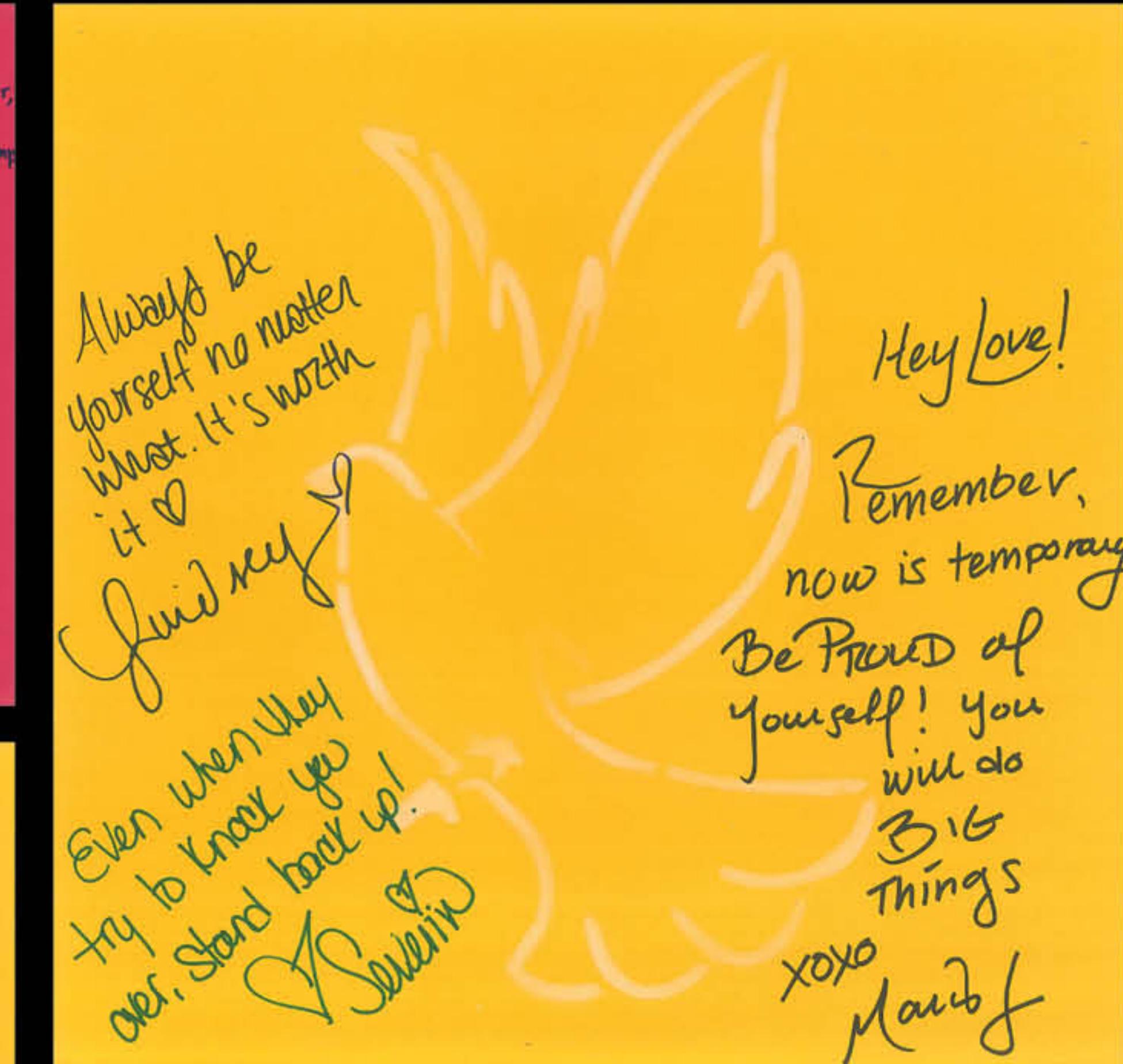
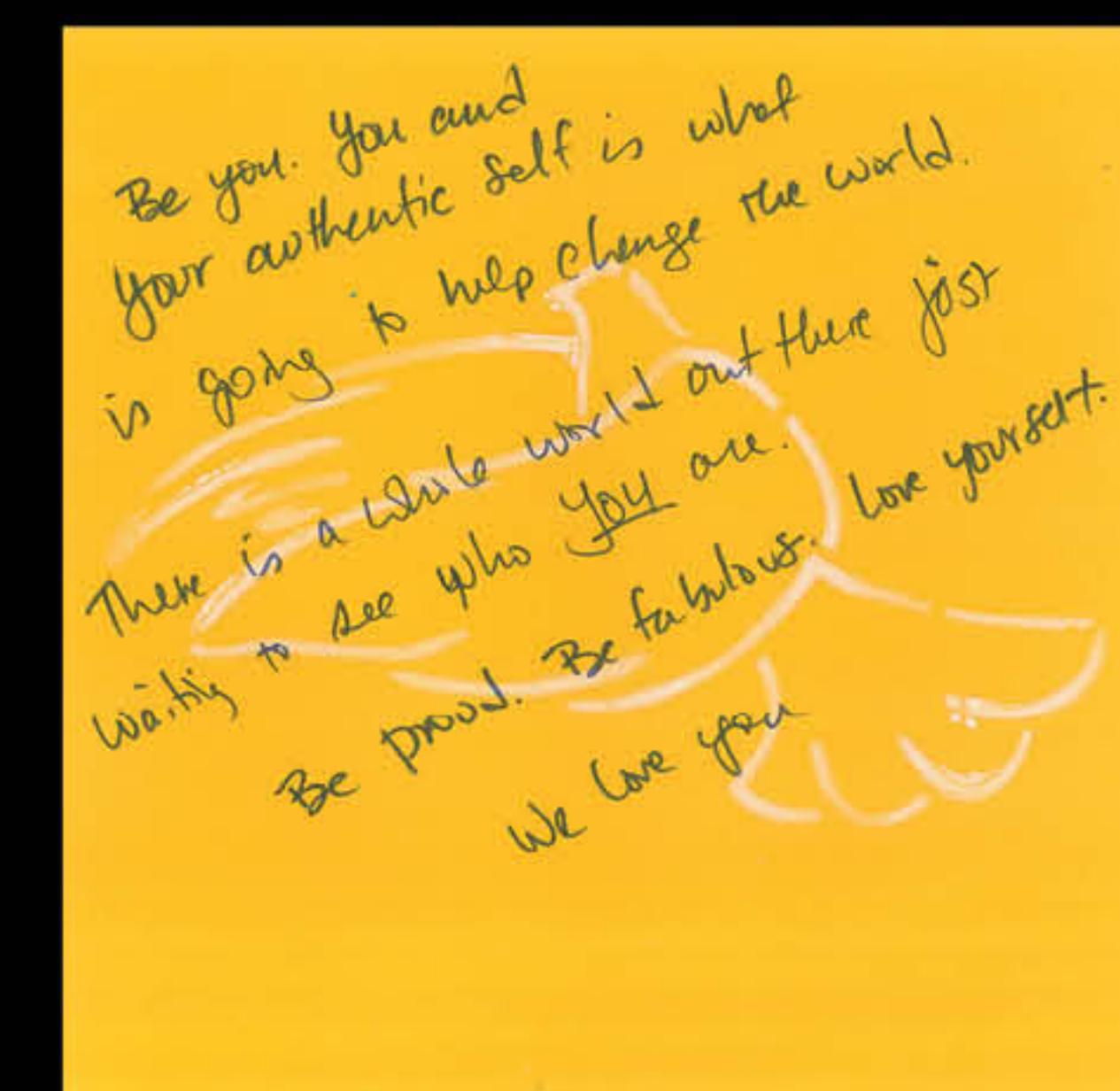
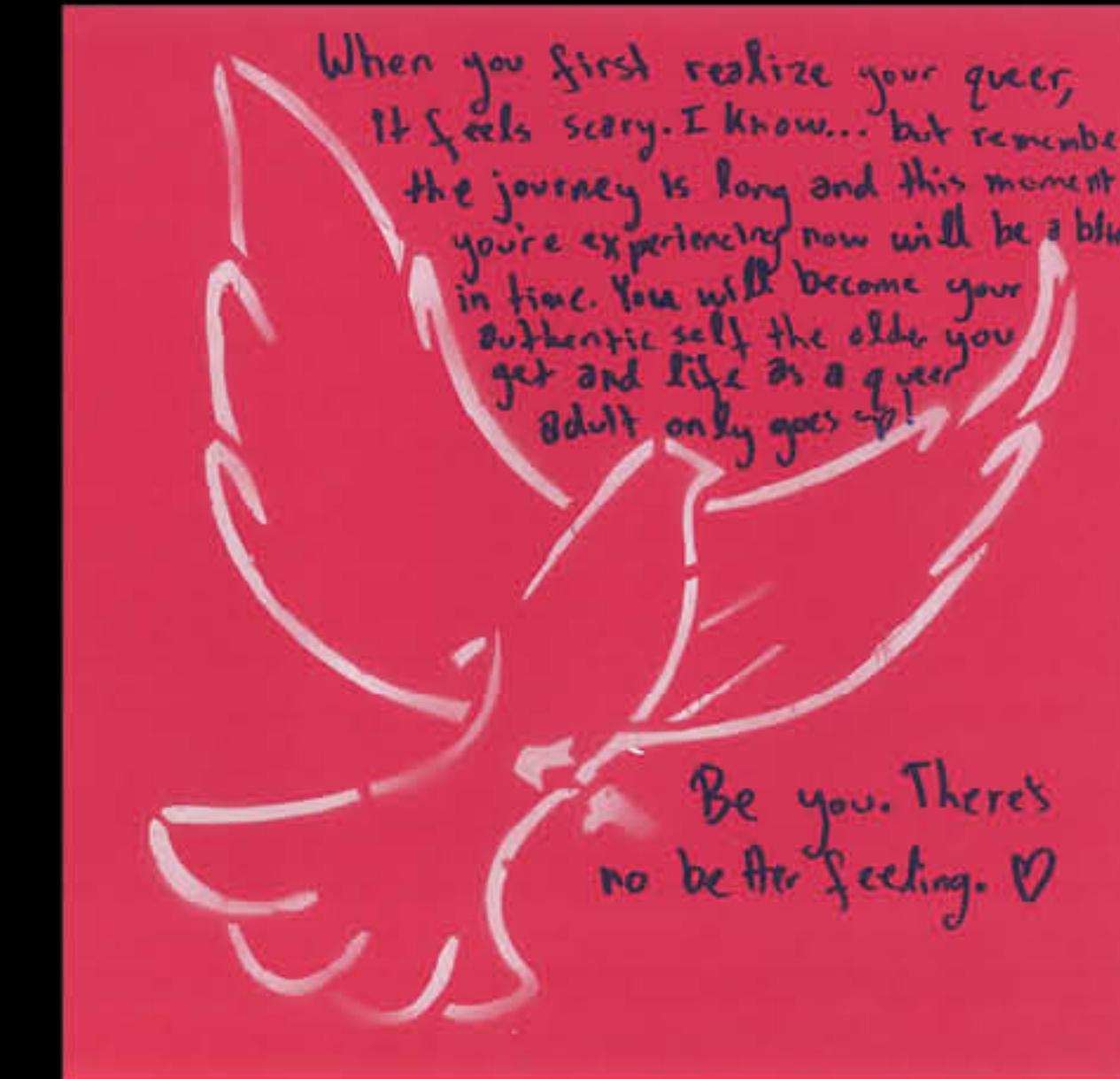
LOVE UNCLE ~~from hell~~

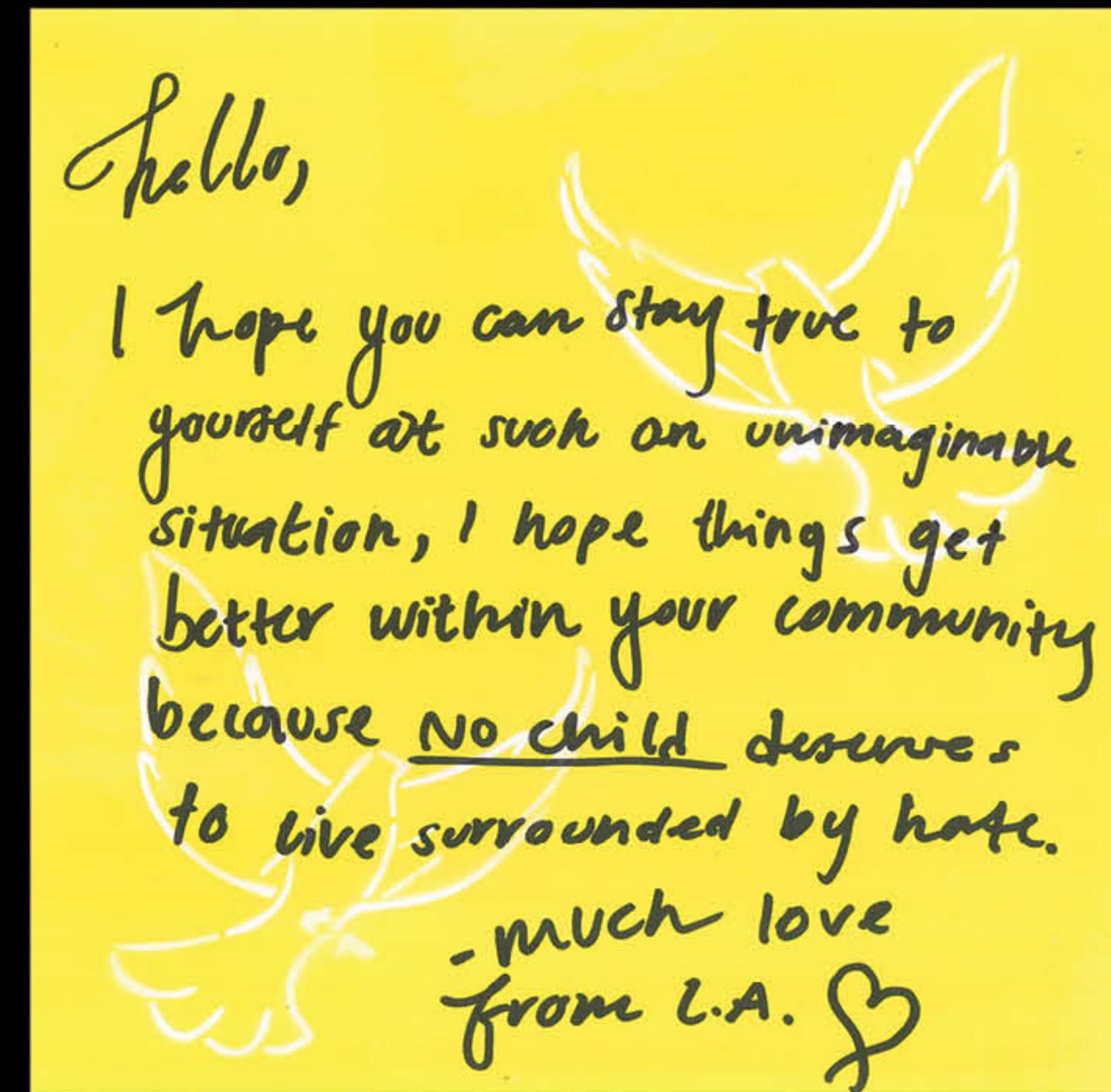
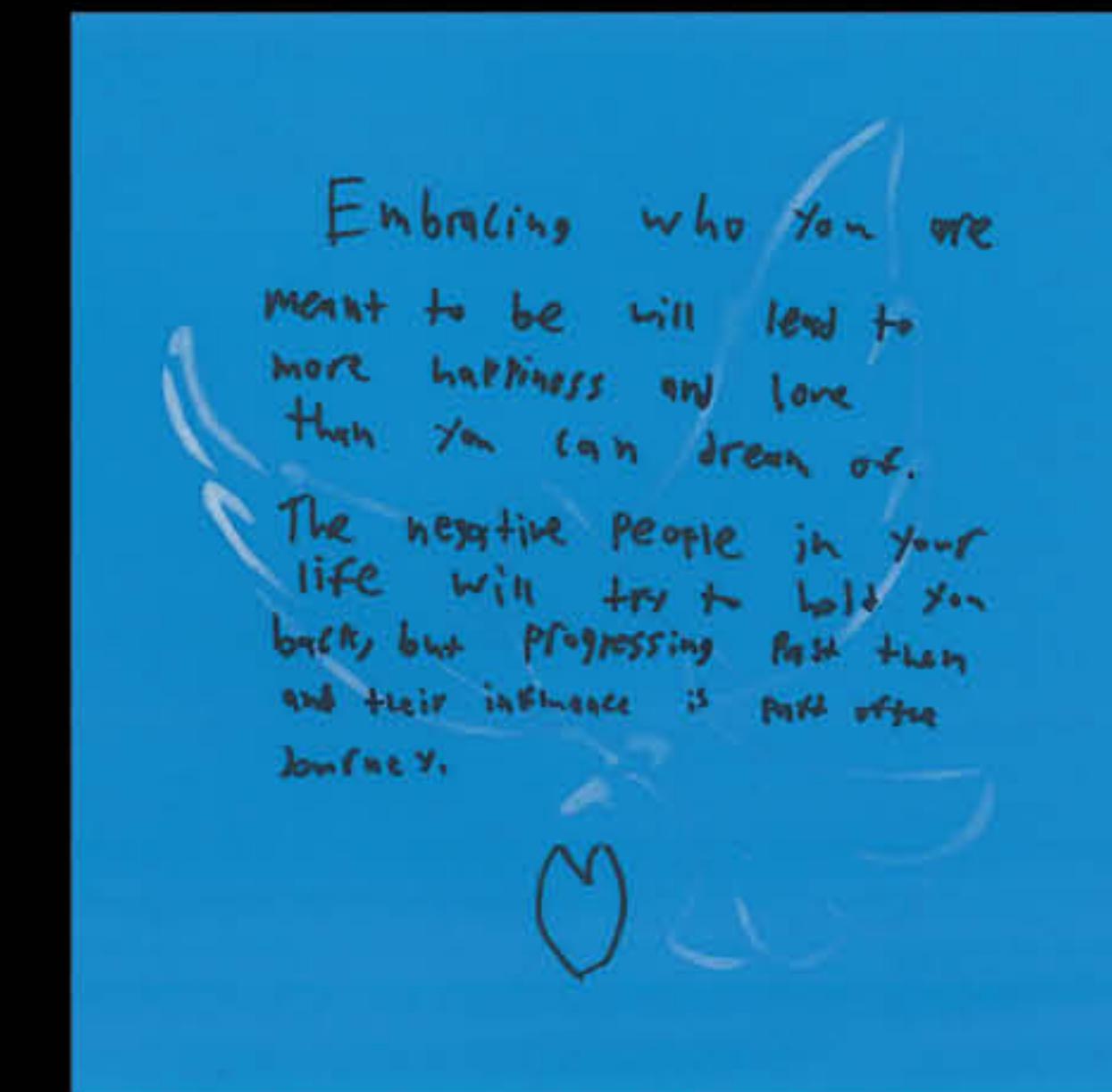
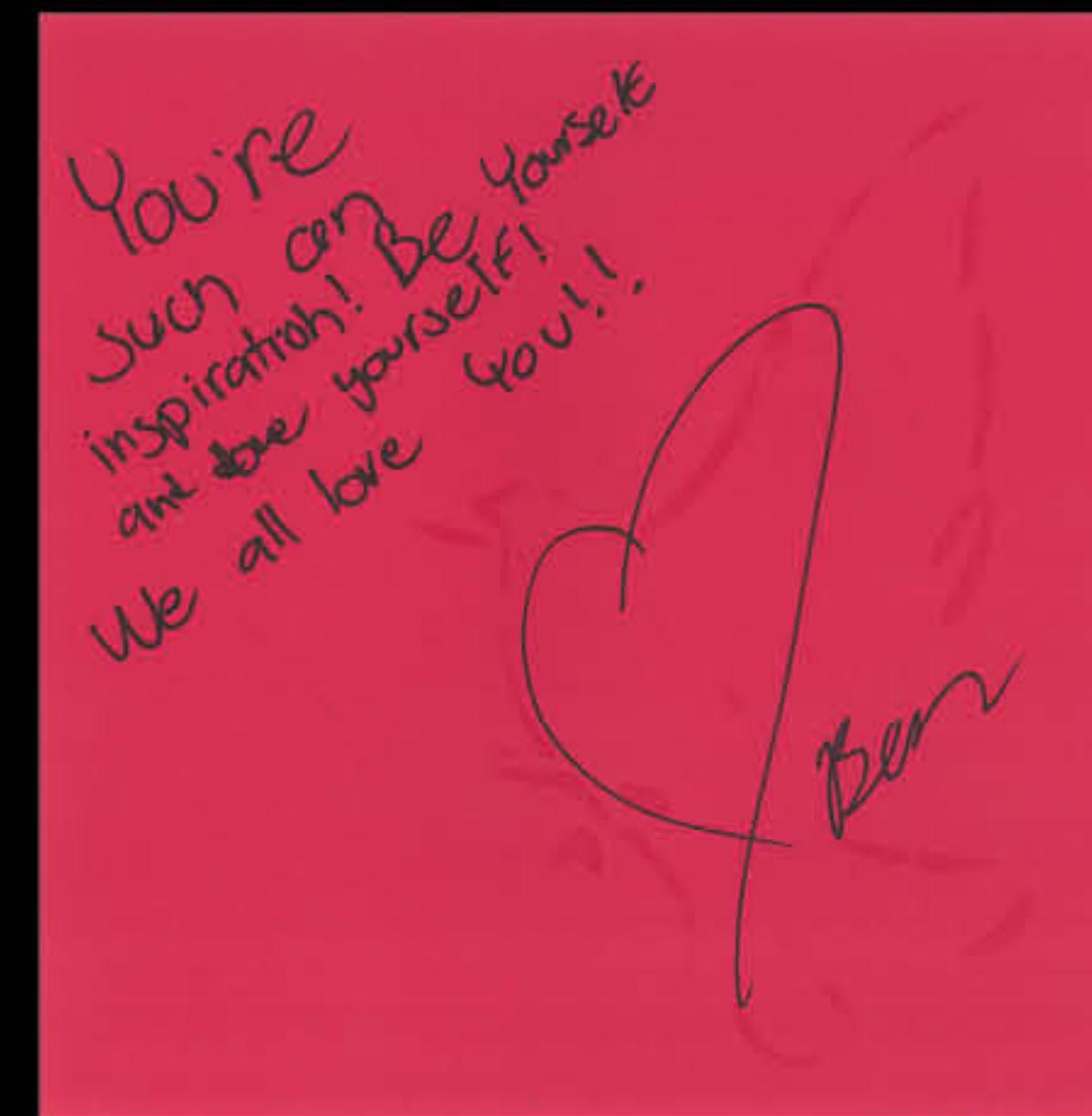
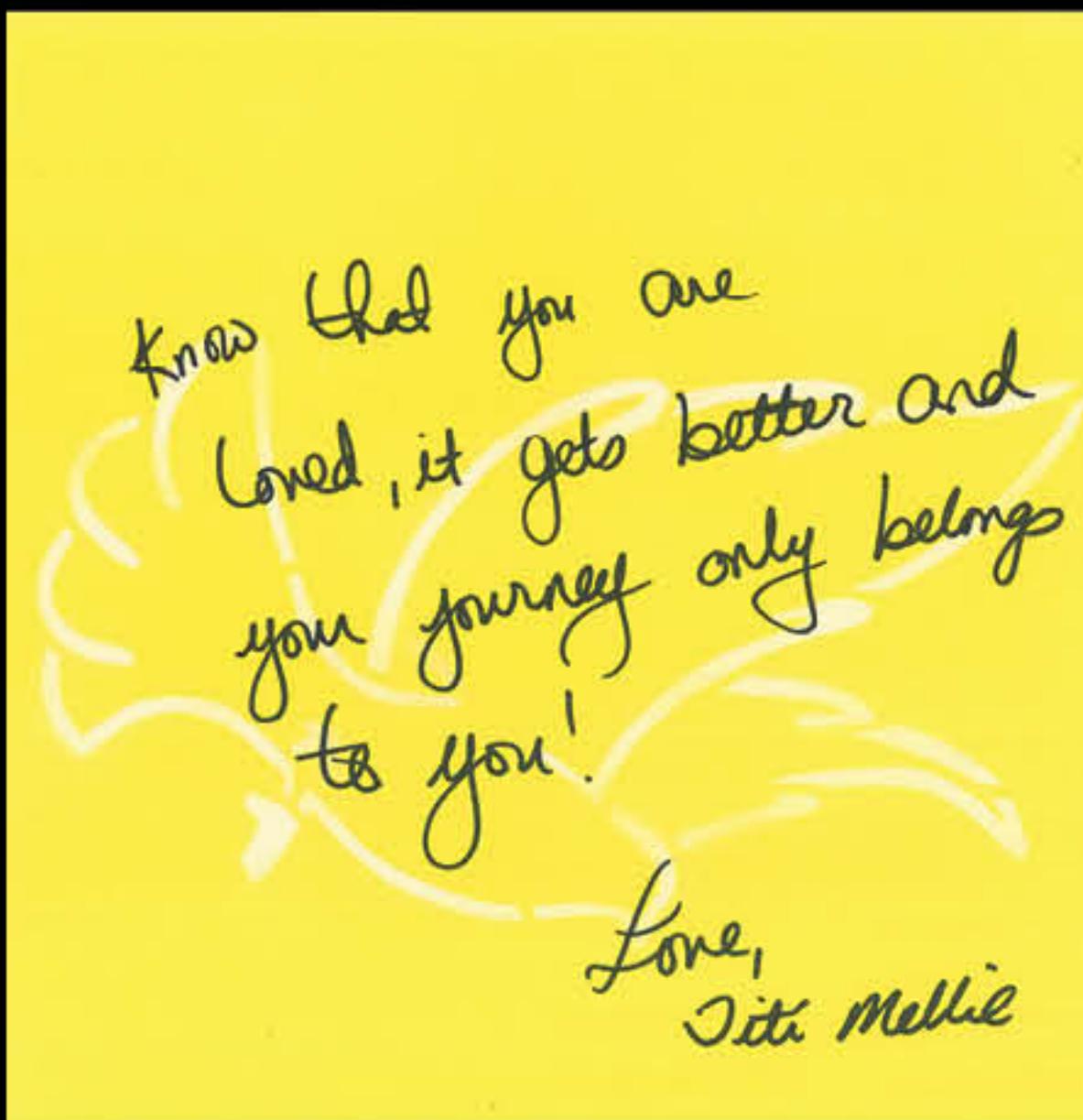
To my babbies,
you are loved exactly how you are. The end of the tunnel is always there! trust your heart, intuition, and authenticity. you are LIVED !!



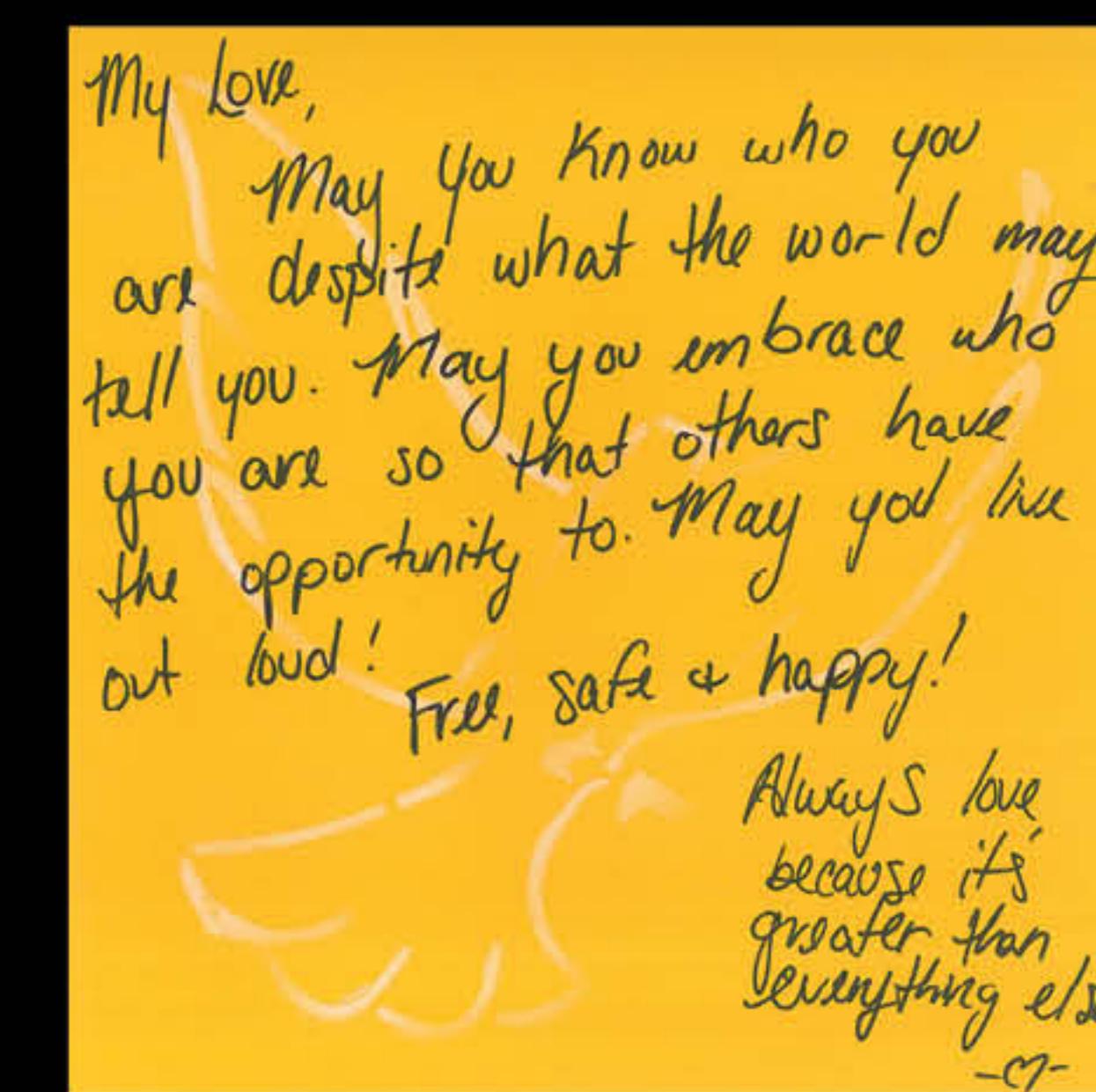
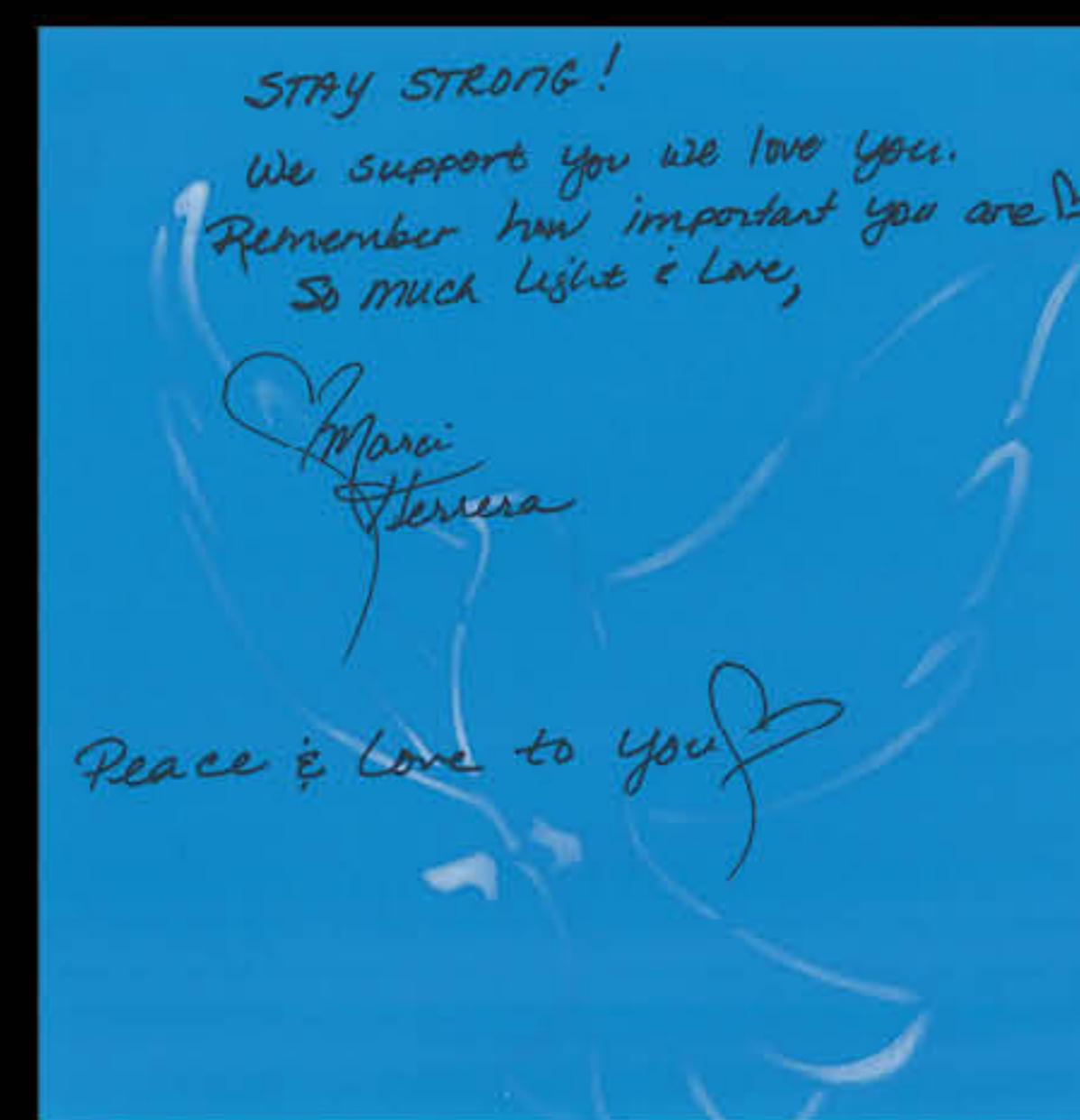
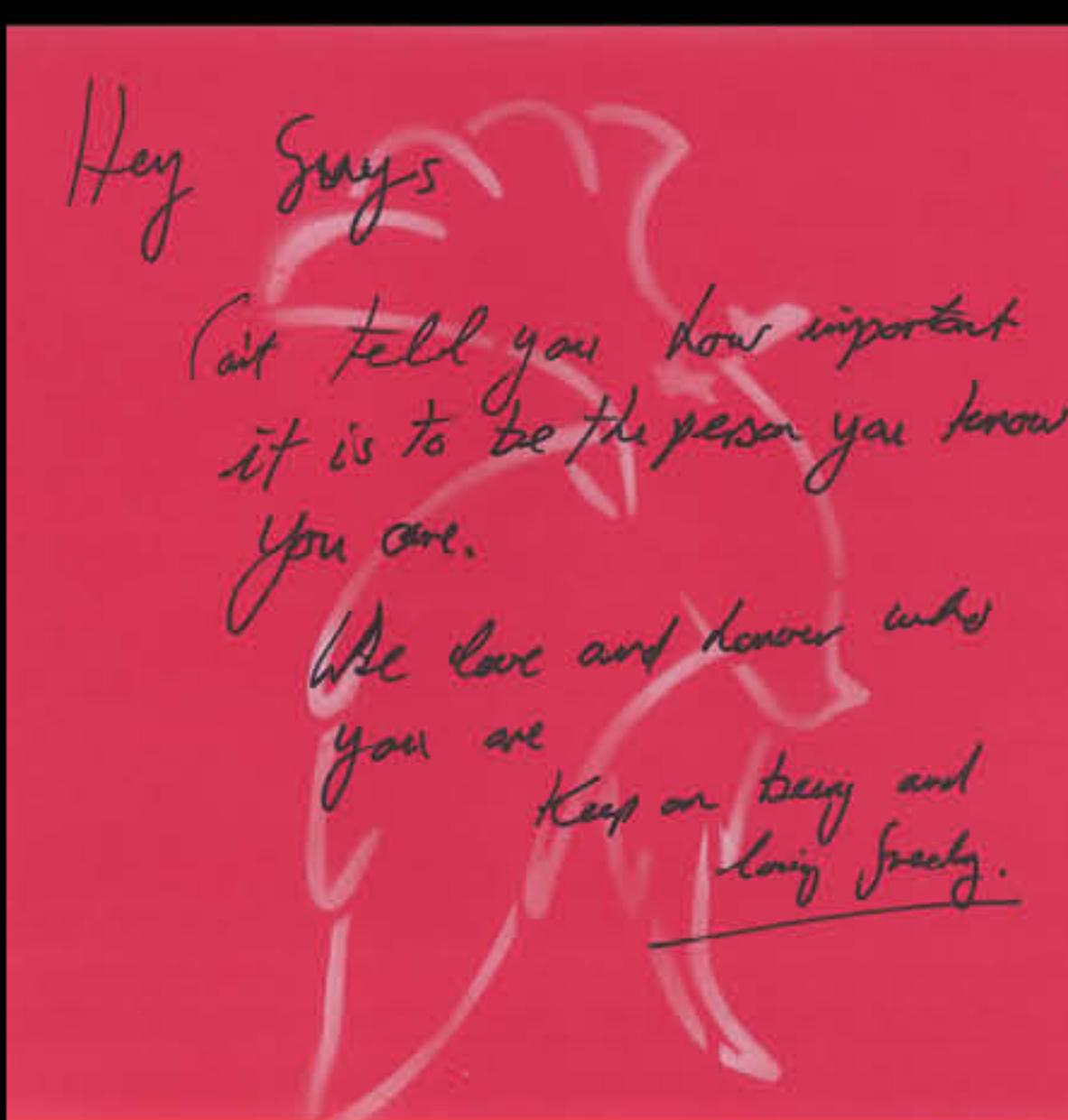
As a trans man who has known since he was in grade school... never let someone tell you that you don't know who you are. I know that it's a scary time right now and has been pretty much for eternity when it comes to the existence of LGBTQ+ folks. You are seen and loved. You have a whole community including myself who has all of your backs.

Love,
Stephen ❤





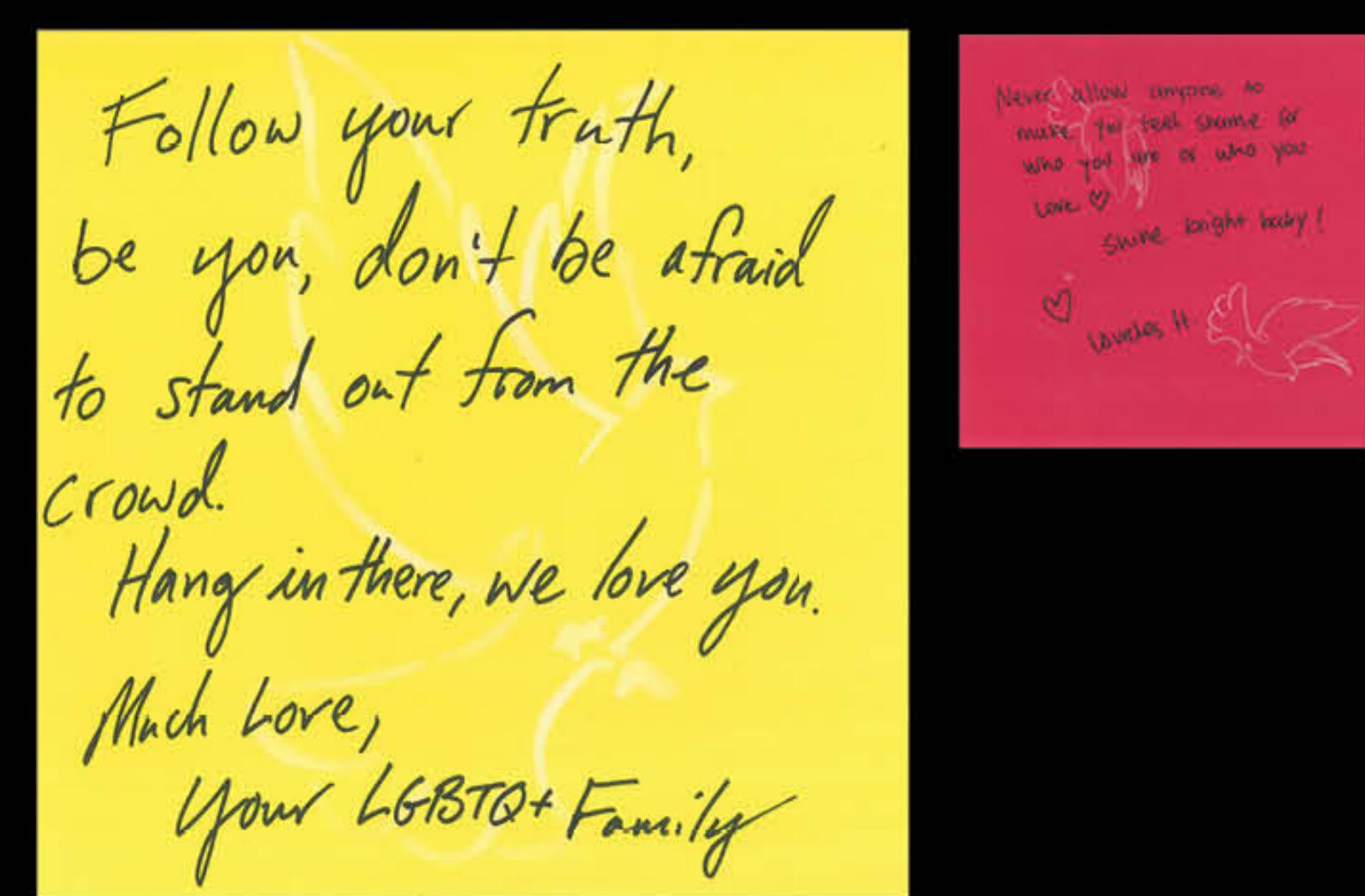
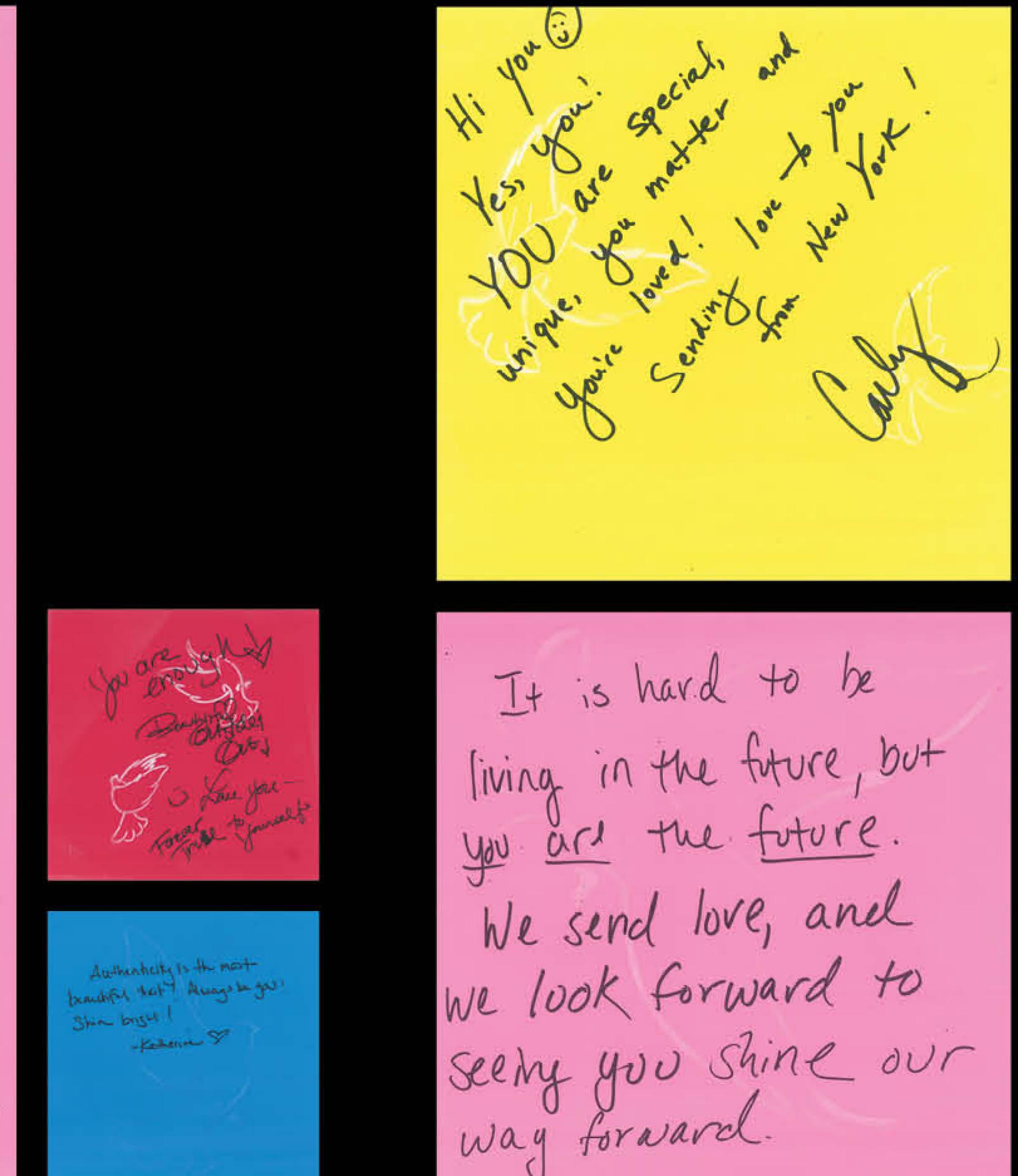
Being BLACK, TRANS, & MASC is everything. We are divine & deserve everything in this life. If that is you, Stand in your POWER. You are loved by the men that came before you.
♡ Gio Santiago

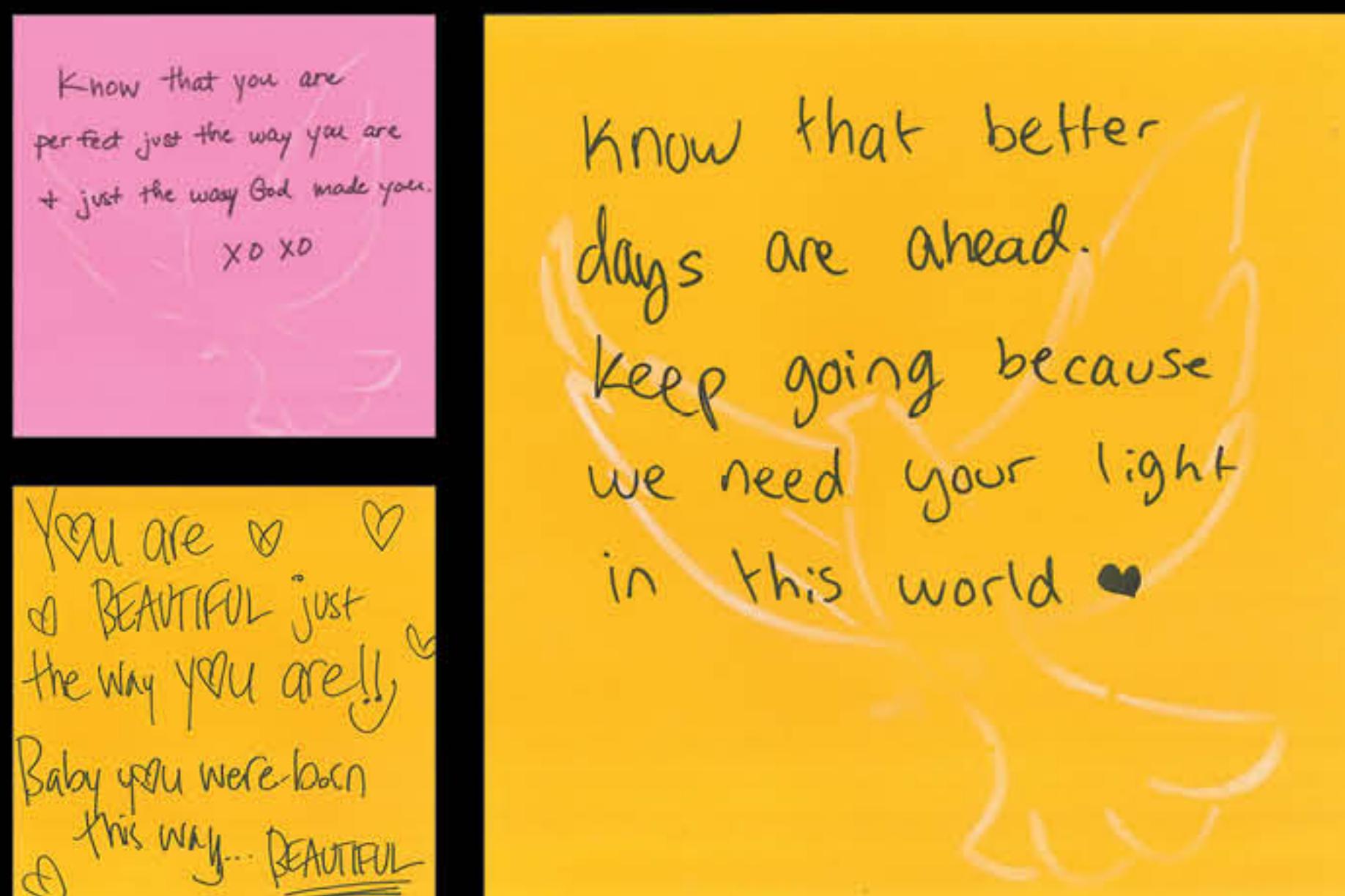
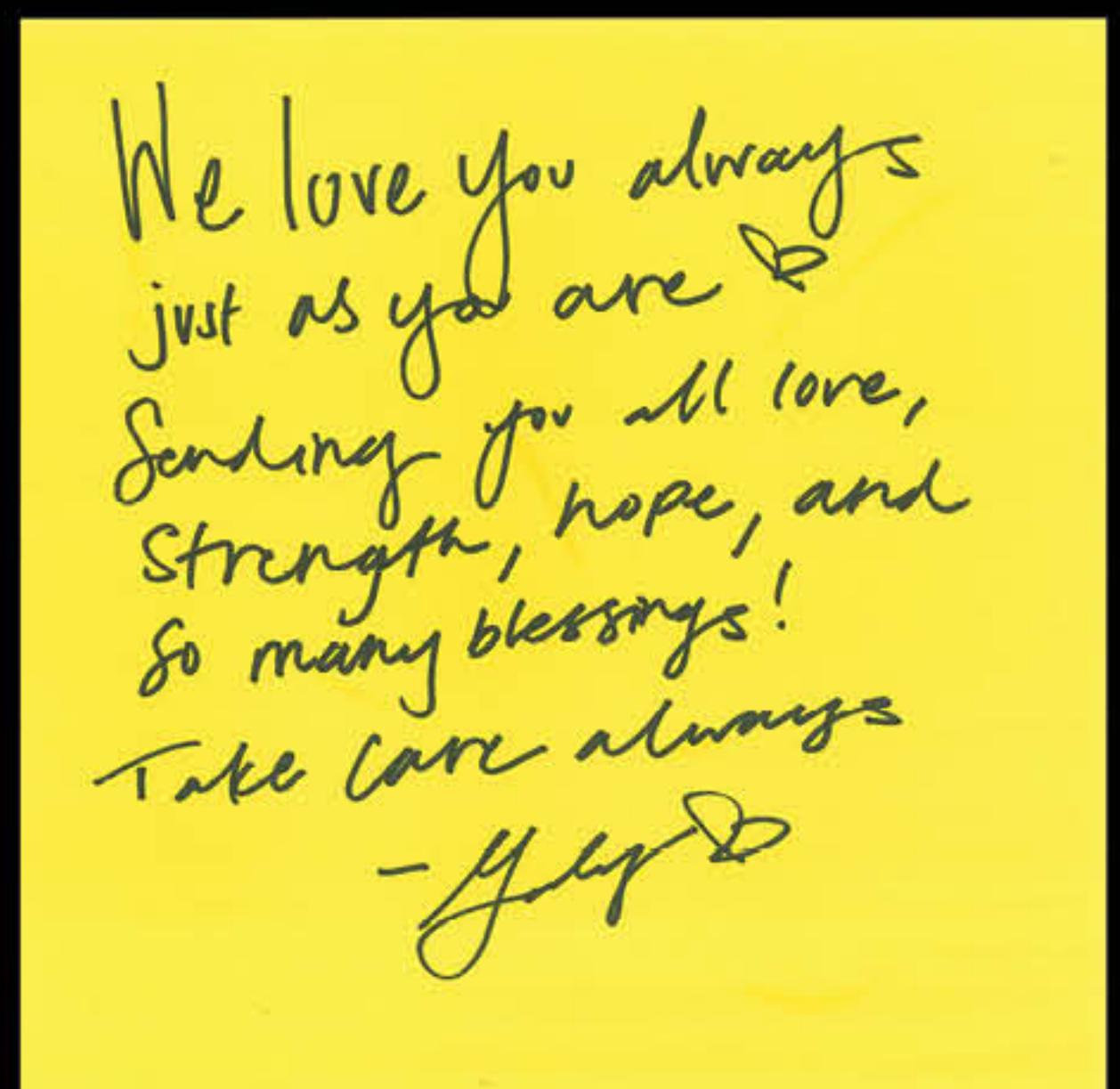
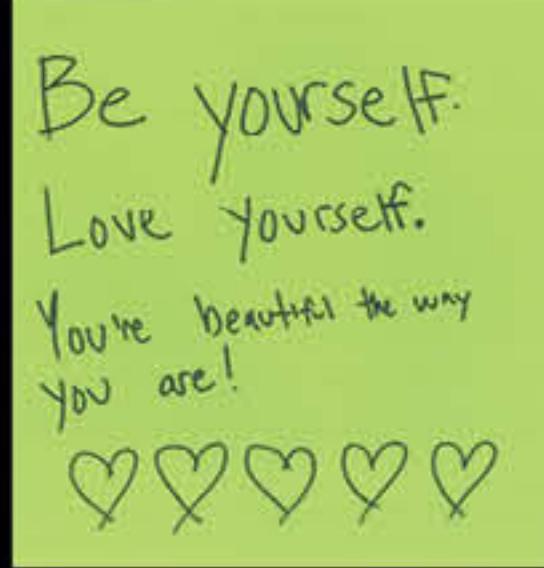
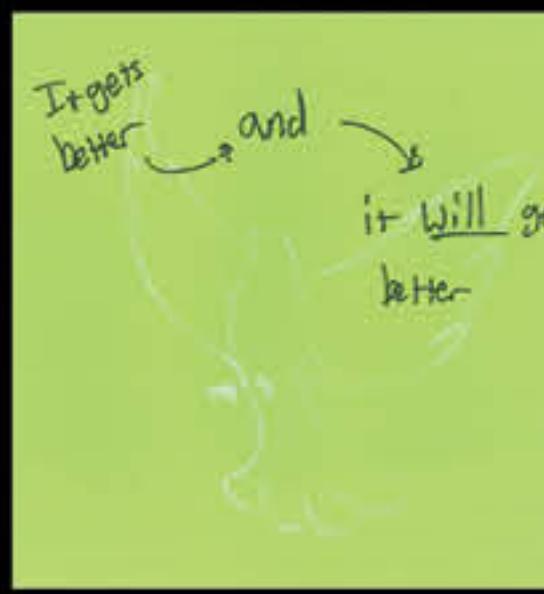
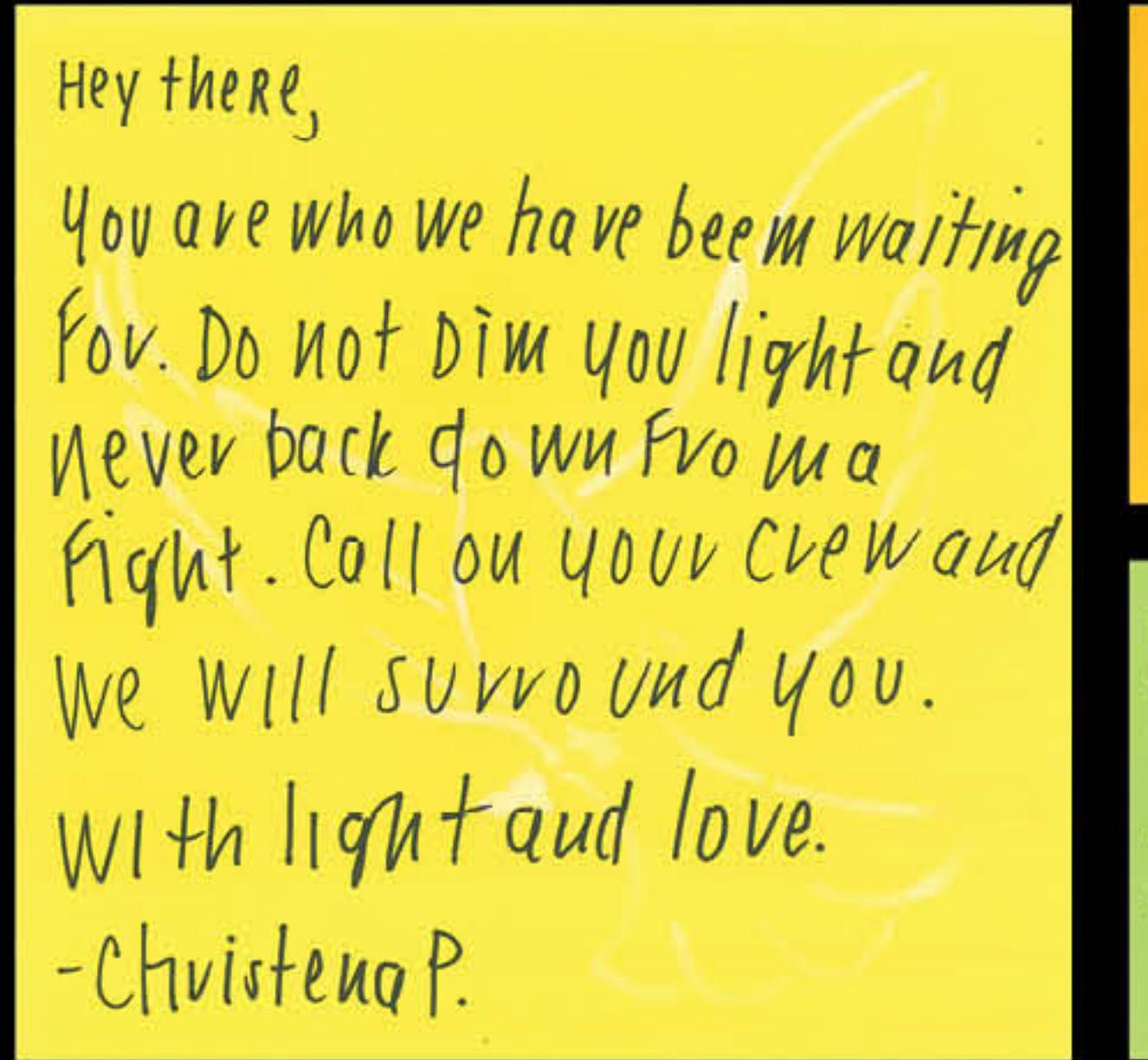
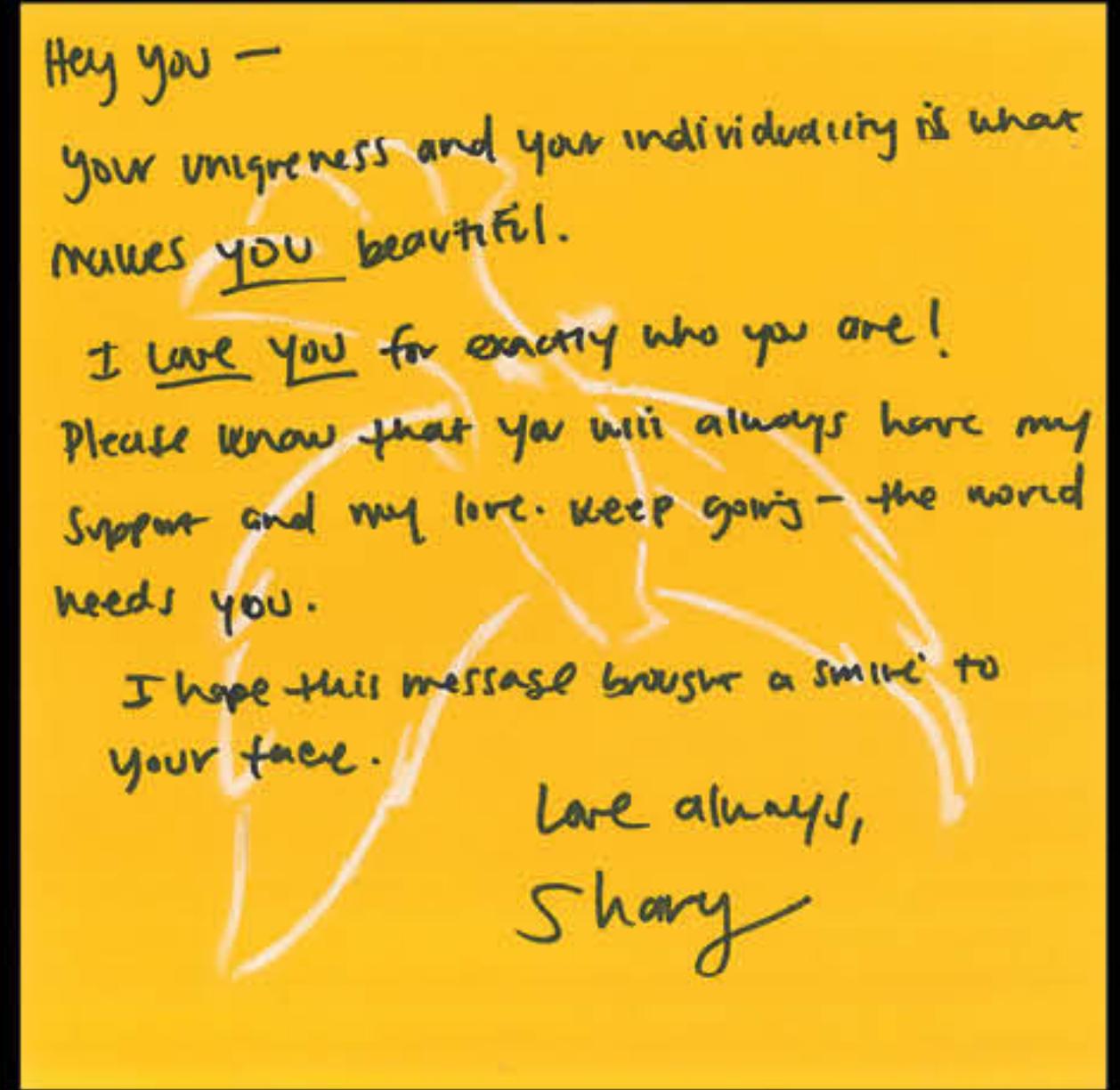


LA VIDA ES MUY CORTA, HAY MUCHAS COSAS QUE APRENDER. PERO LO MAS IMPORTANTE ES QUE SIEMPRE TENDRAS MUCHO AMOR POR PARTE DE TU COMUNIDAD.
MIRATE AL ESPEJO PUEDES SER QUIEN AYUDA A MAS PERSONAS CUIDO TU!
ERES Y SIEMPRE SERAS LA ESTRELLA QUE BRILLA EN EL CIELO
CON AMOR
GOD.

Dear youth of Tulsa,
You persevere every day
like adults are suppose
to do for your safety.

You should be kids, making
mistakes, discovering life, a live,
and well and together. YOU!
MATTER! We will fight
for you! Just call, we will
be there. With love. -Lana

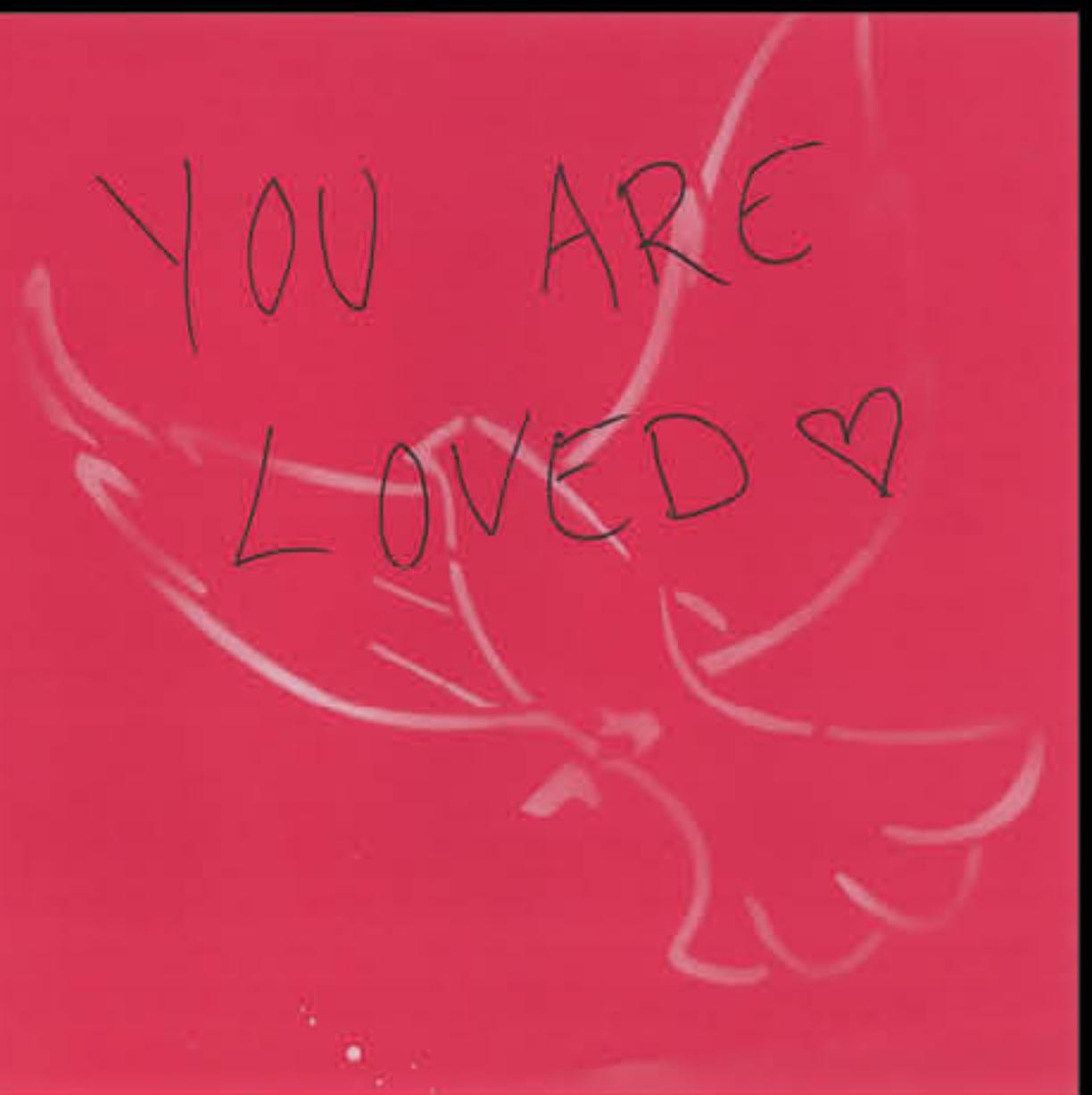




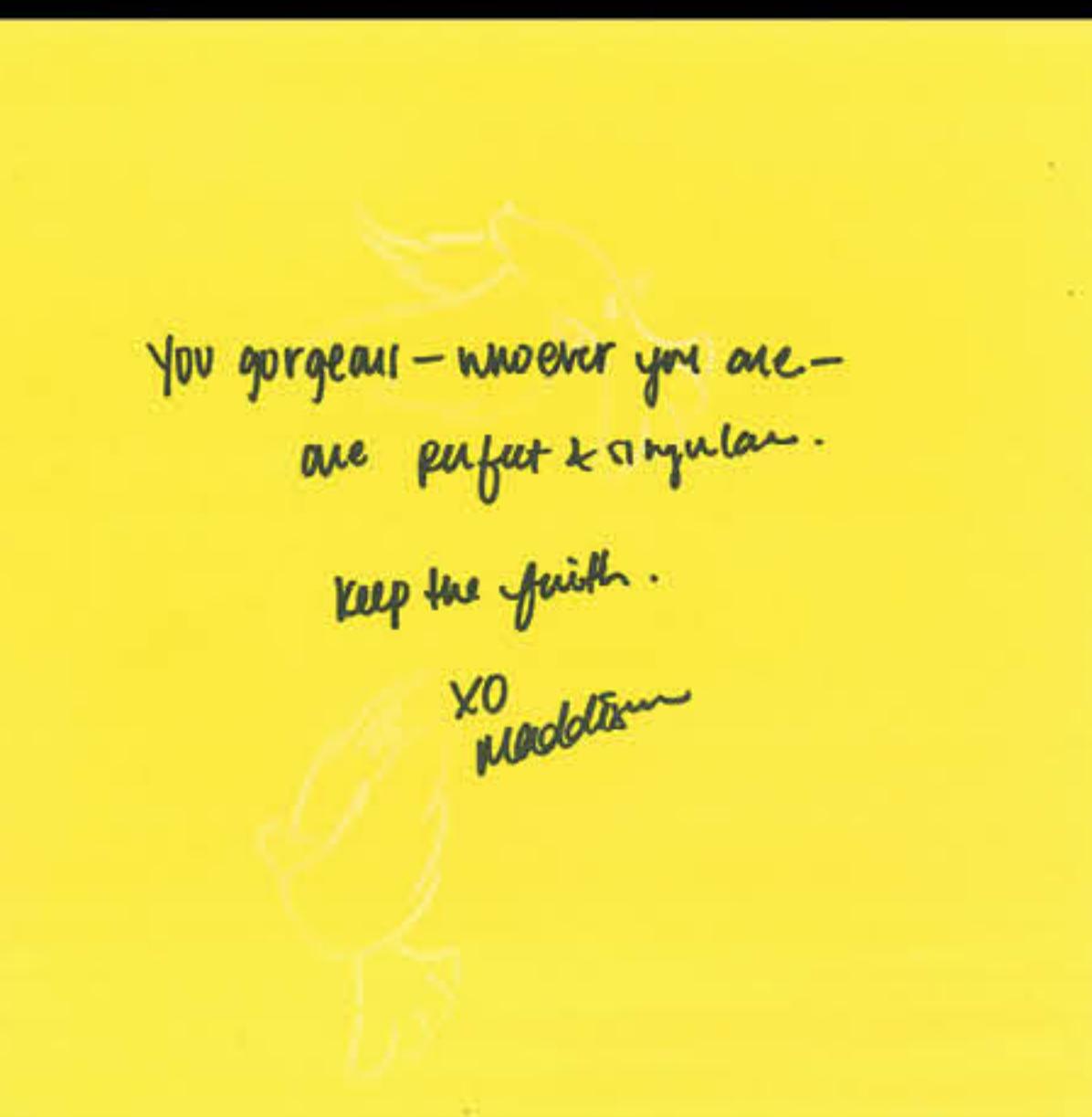
La Vie En Rosé (Title)

Hi Kids of Oklahoma
please experience life with
the hopes & promise that will allow
you to thrive in this world - I know
its hard, and my travels in France is
also very inspiring to see life beyond
what we have here. I love you
and hope you do as much as yourself
as good people in our world.

LOVE,
Nick + Vadim NYC

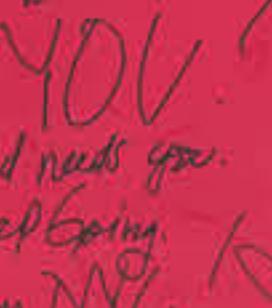


Hey I know things haven't been the easiest. But keep going you got this.
You are perfect just the way you are!!
DO NOT APOLOGIZE FOR WHO YOU ARE. 
Eliza.



There is nothing more beautiful than you being you. Know that there are people out there that see you and love you just the way you are.

Hello Friend,
Even if you feel alone, you are not.
Even if people close to you say it's impossible, it is not.
We love you, and you can do it. Make it happen.
Best,
Your friend

You are Strong.
You are Beautiful
You are YOU.
The world needs you.
Keep Going.
Love from NYC 

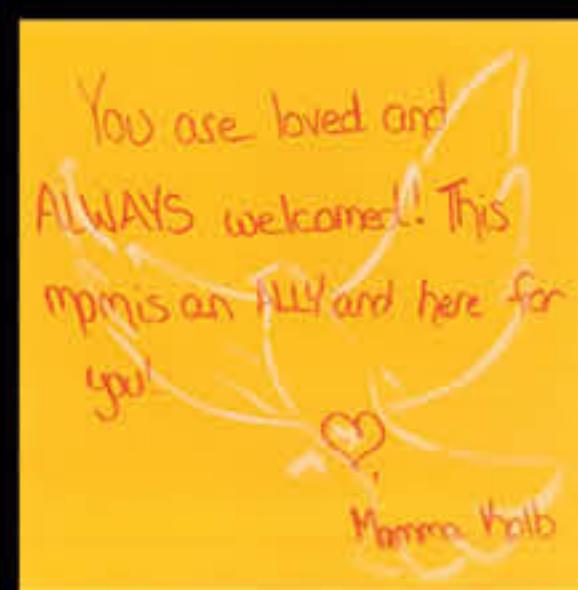
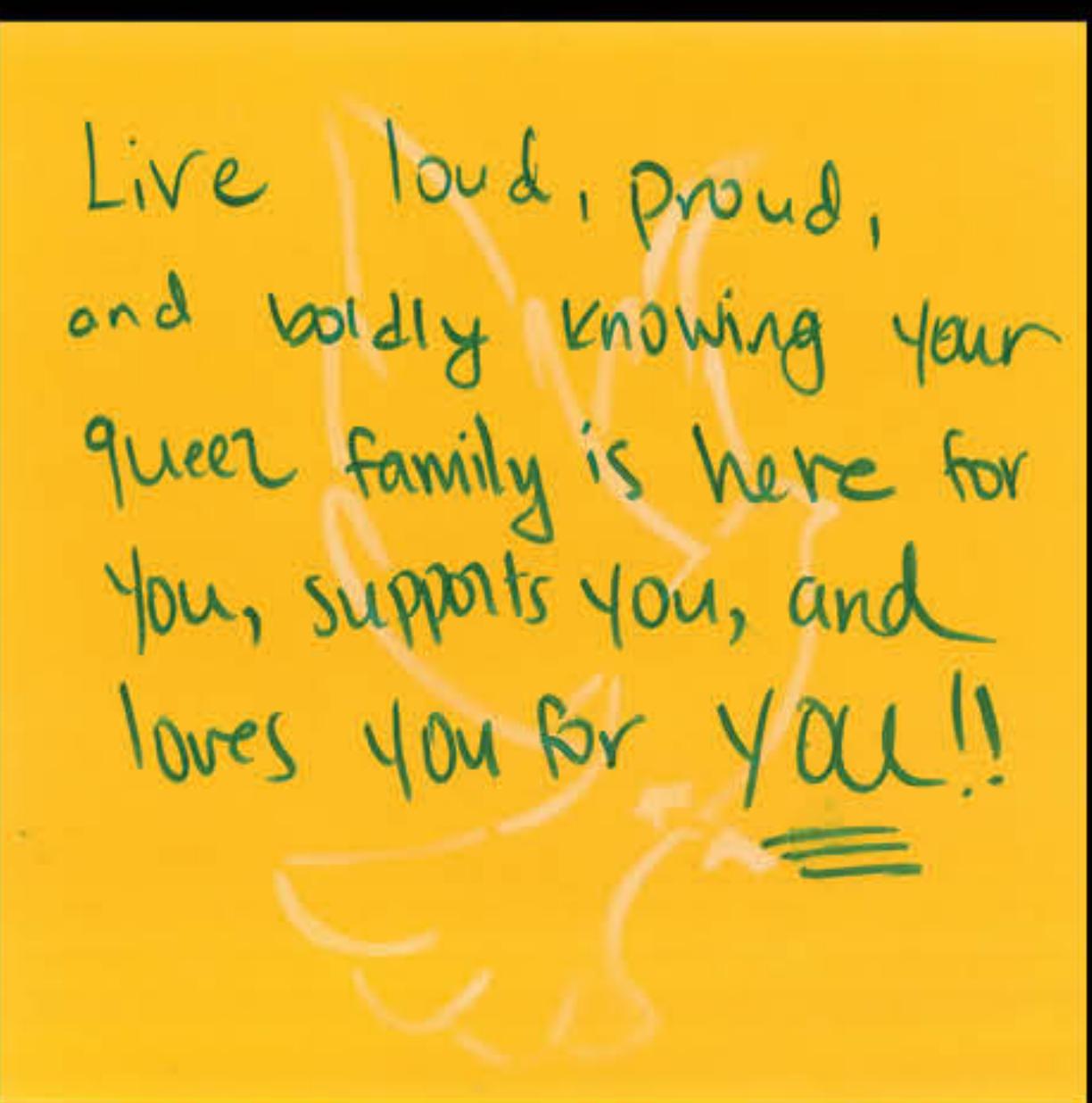
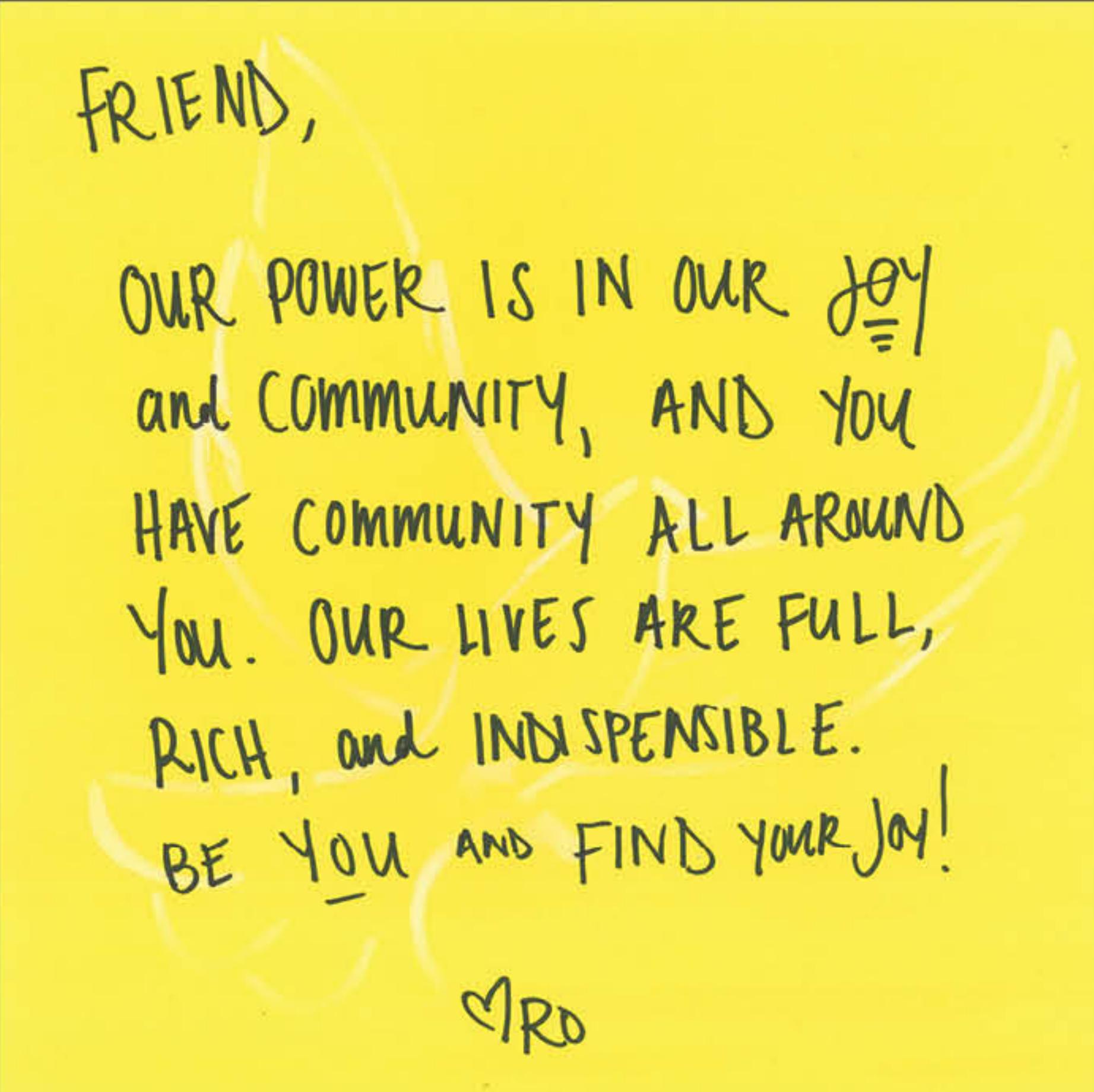
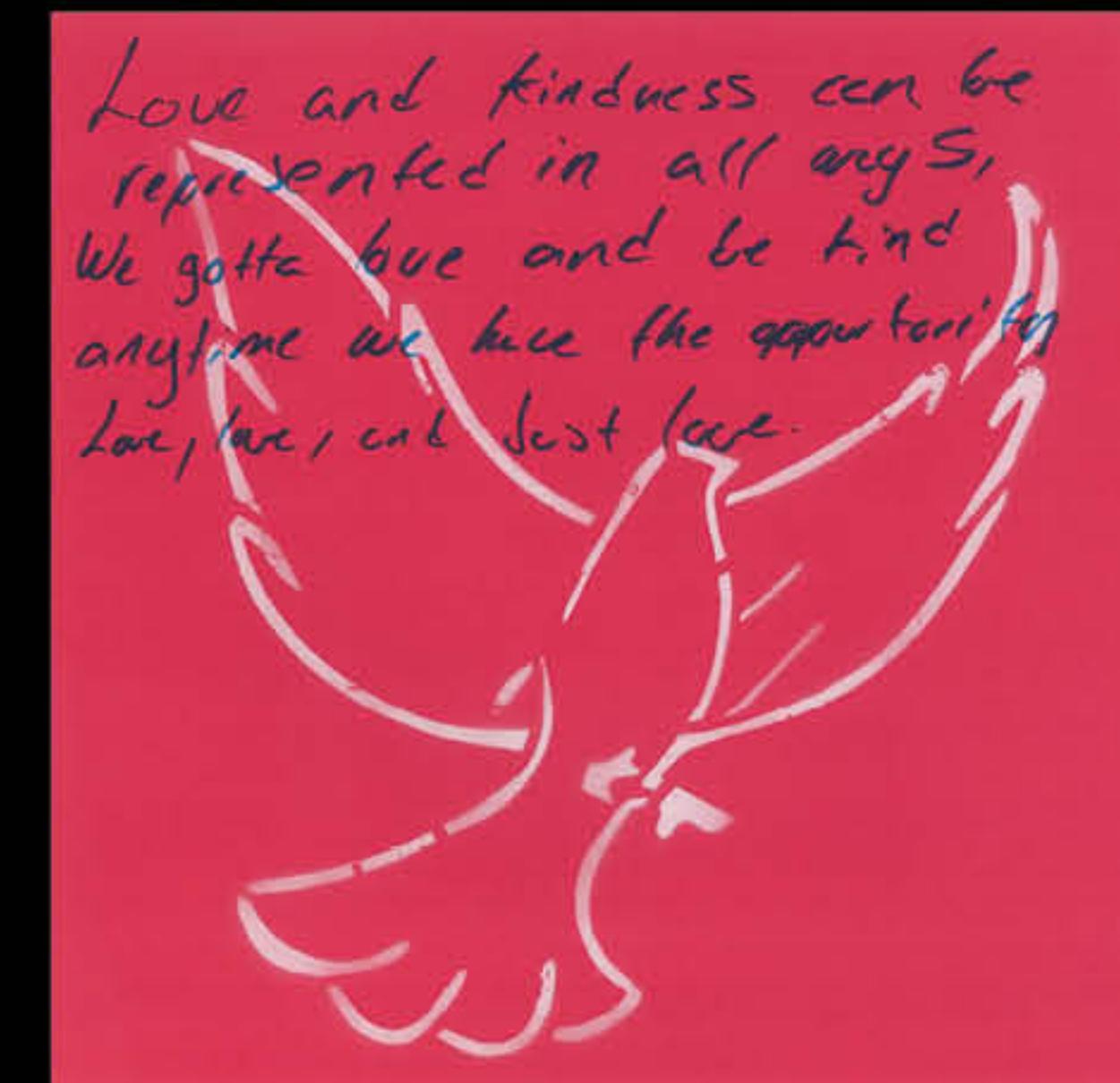
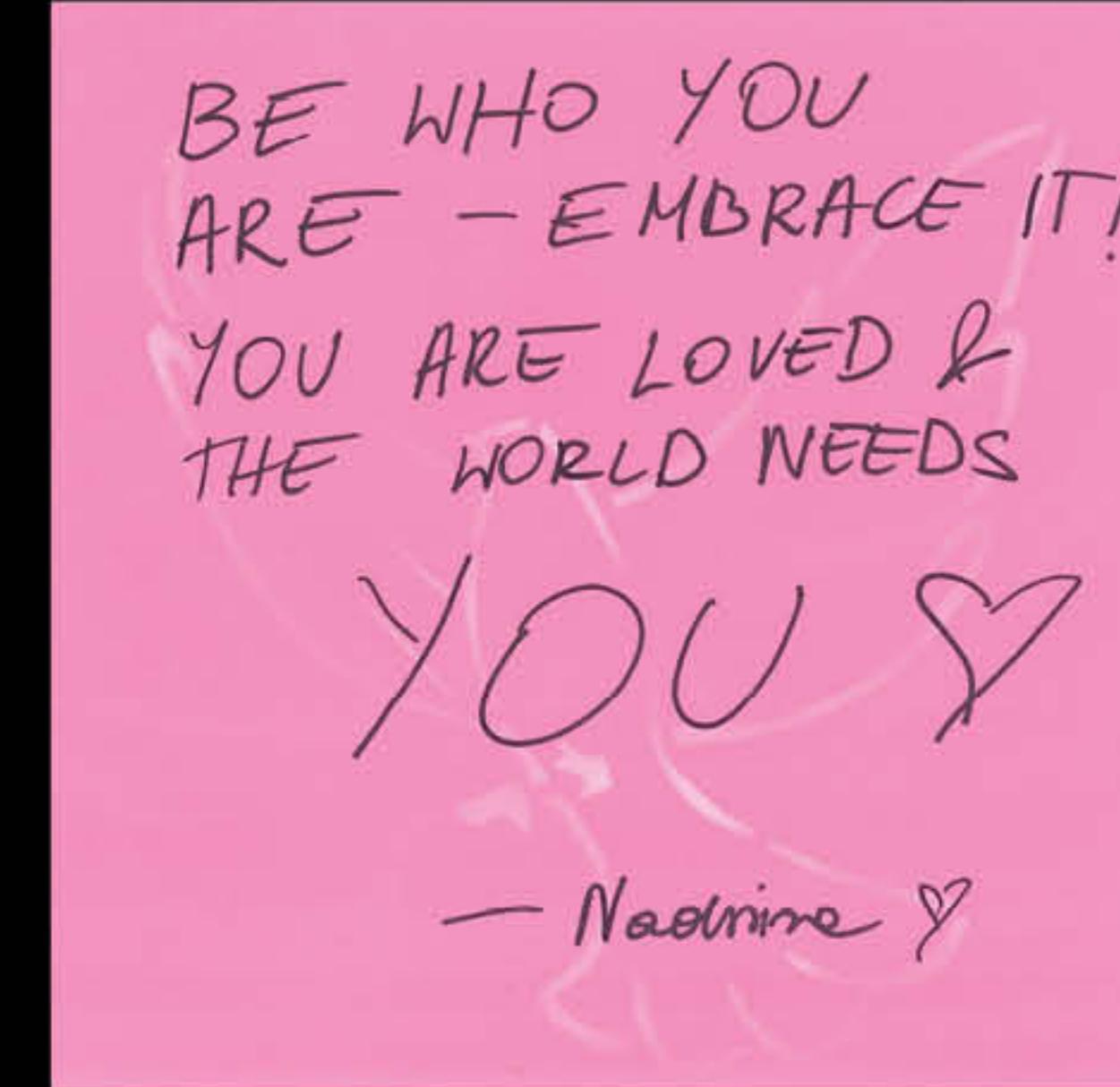
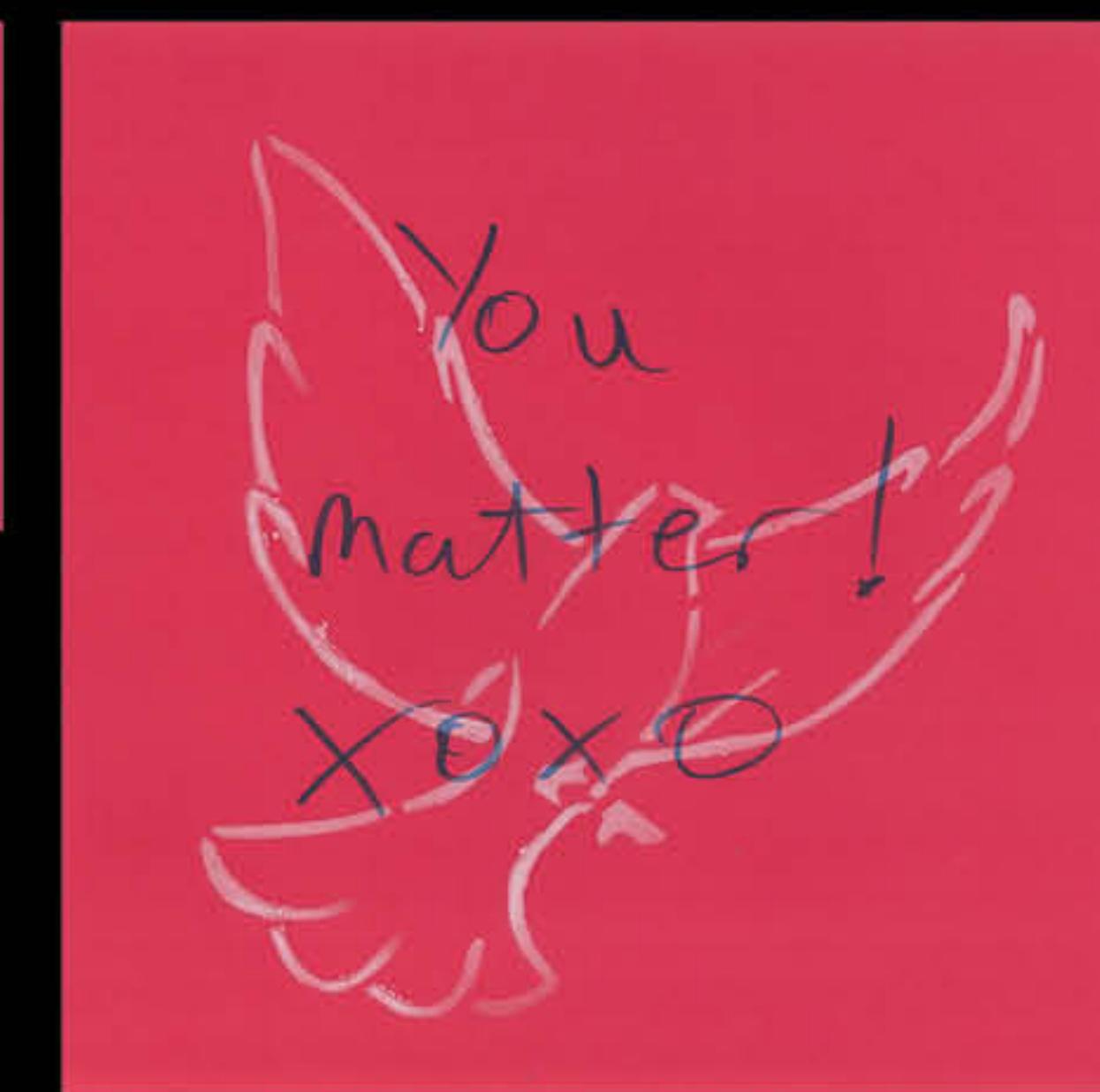
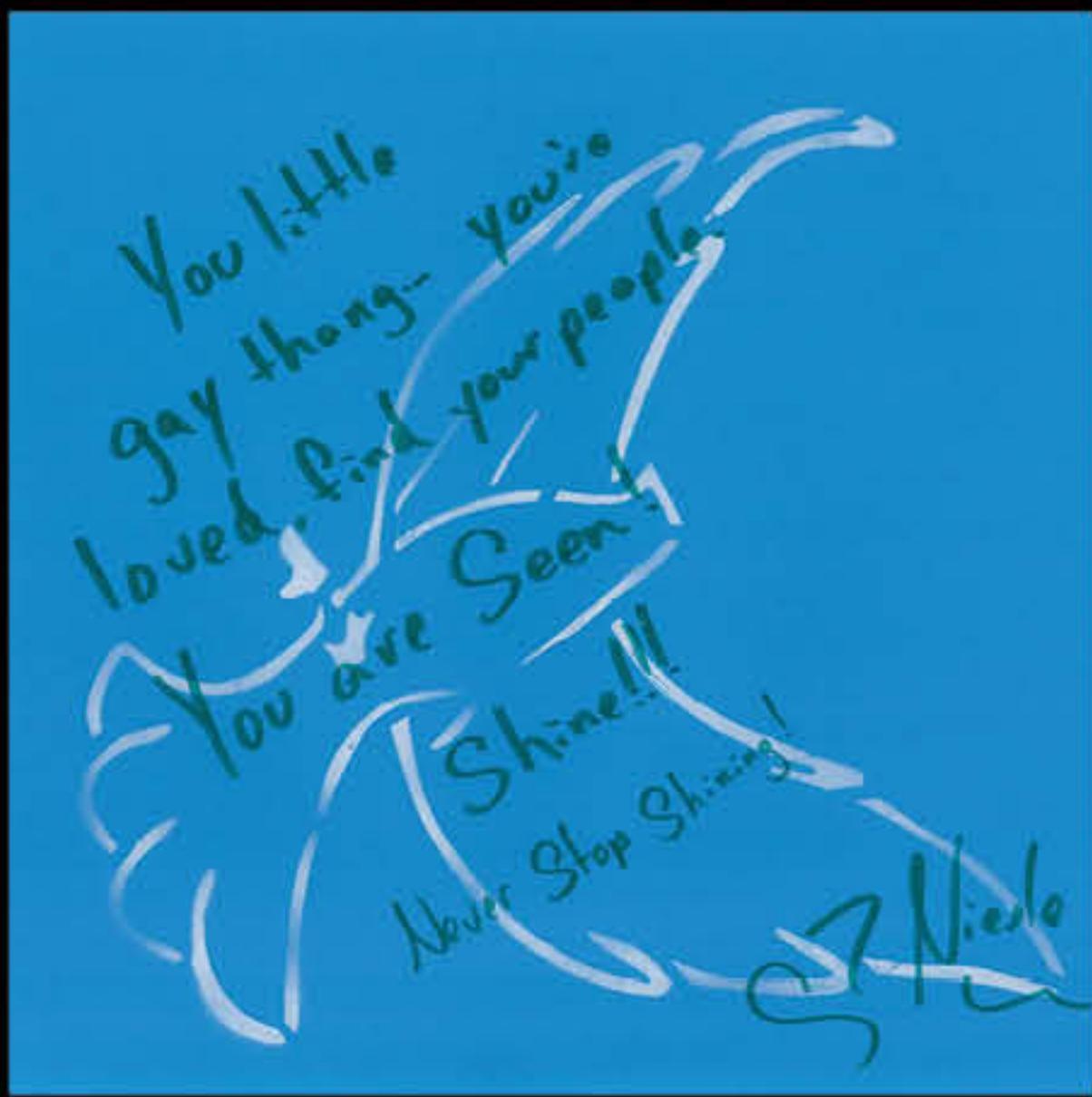
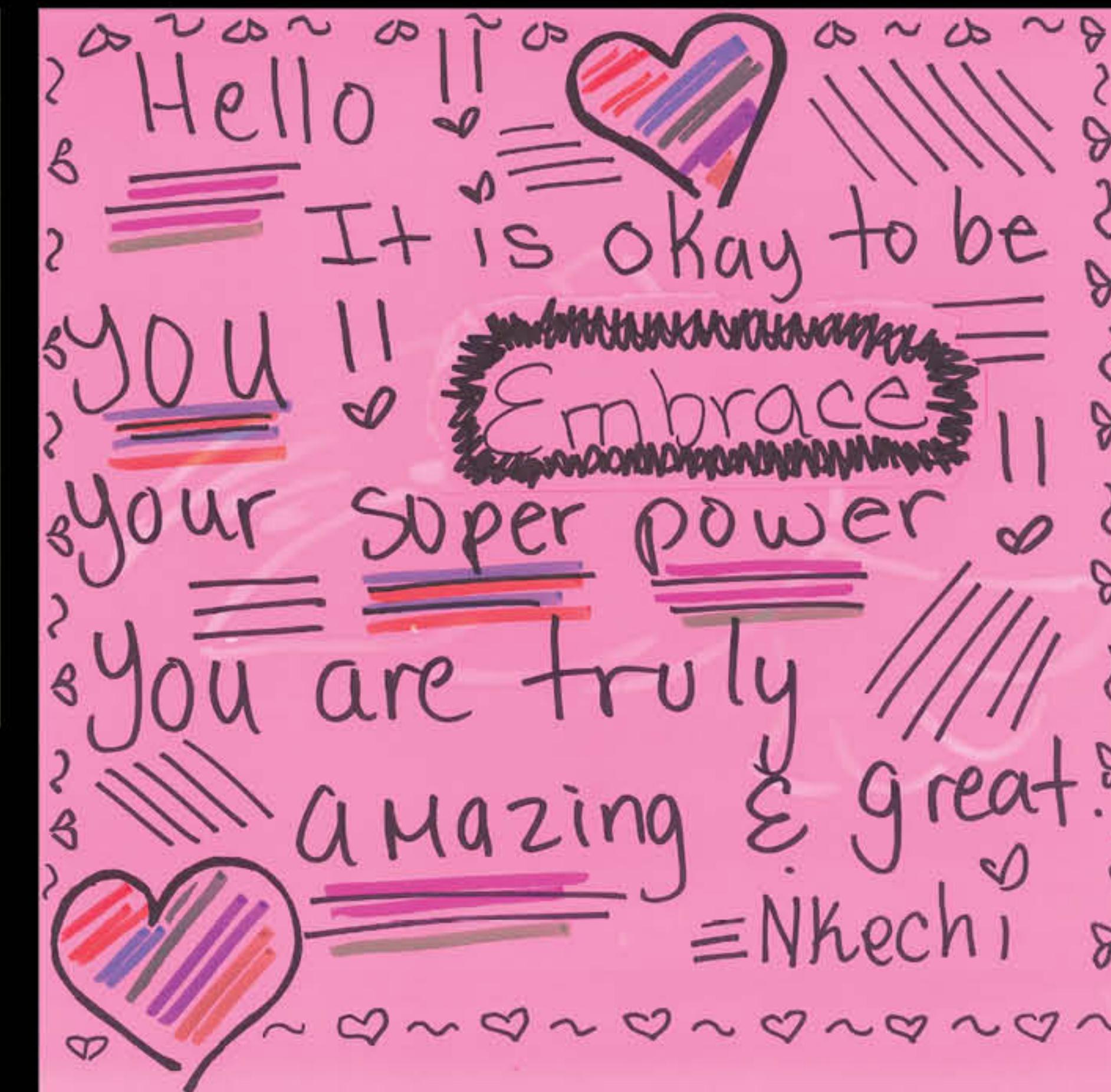
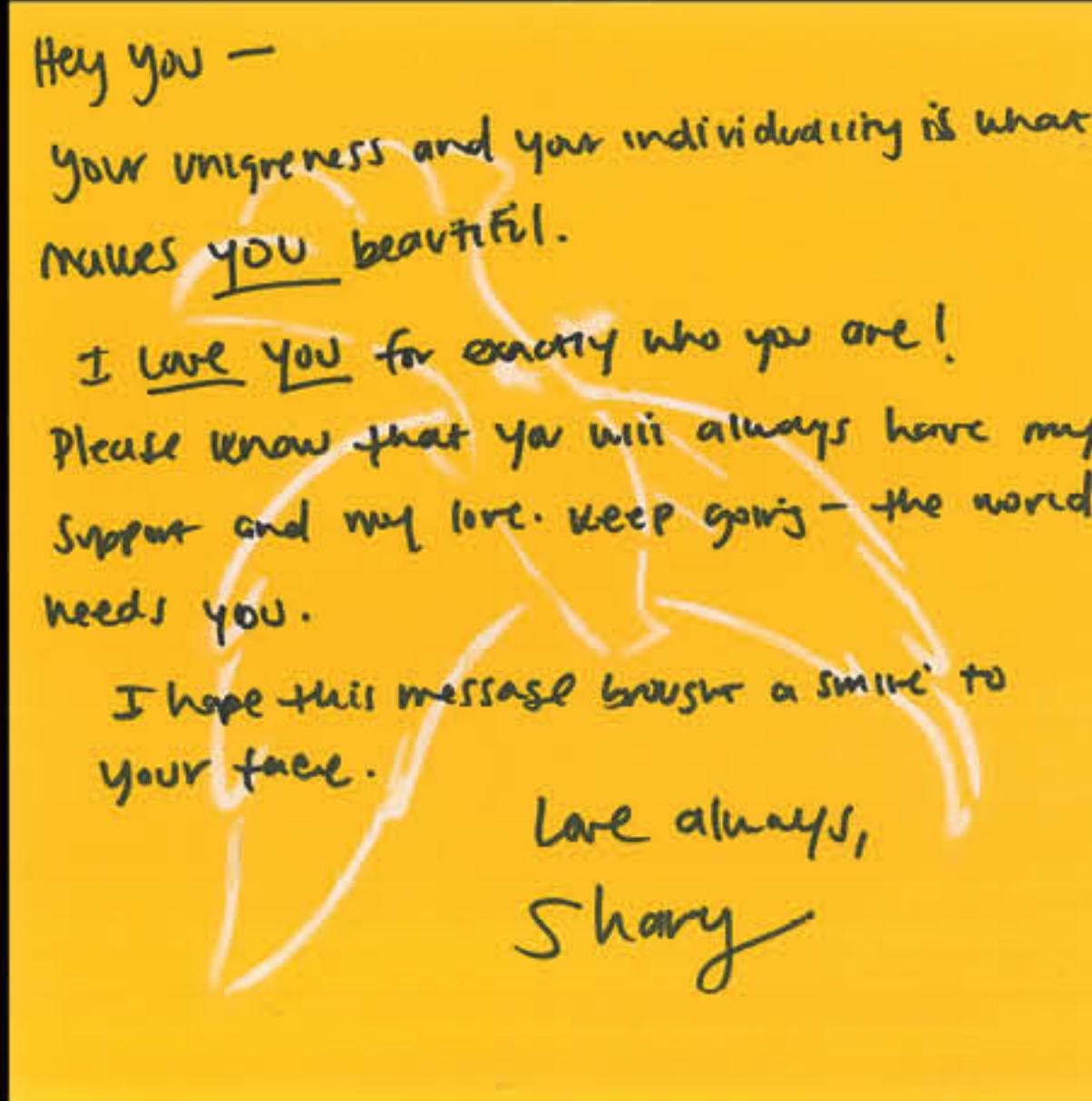
You will find your people. You will meet your chosen family. The ones who support you and love you NO MATTER WHAT.

Don't quit before the miracle.
Don't let anyone dim your light.
I see you. I love you. I mean it.

 DIVKAH REYES

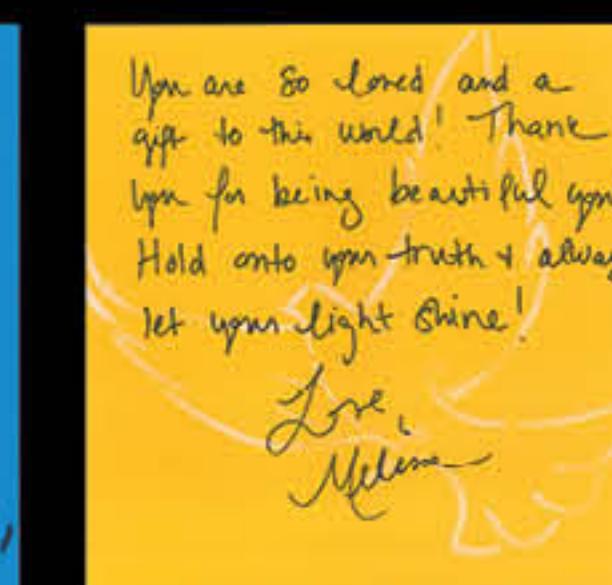
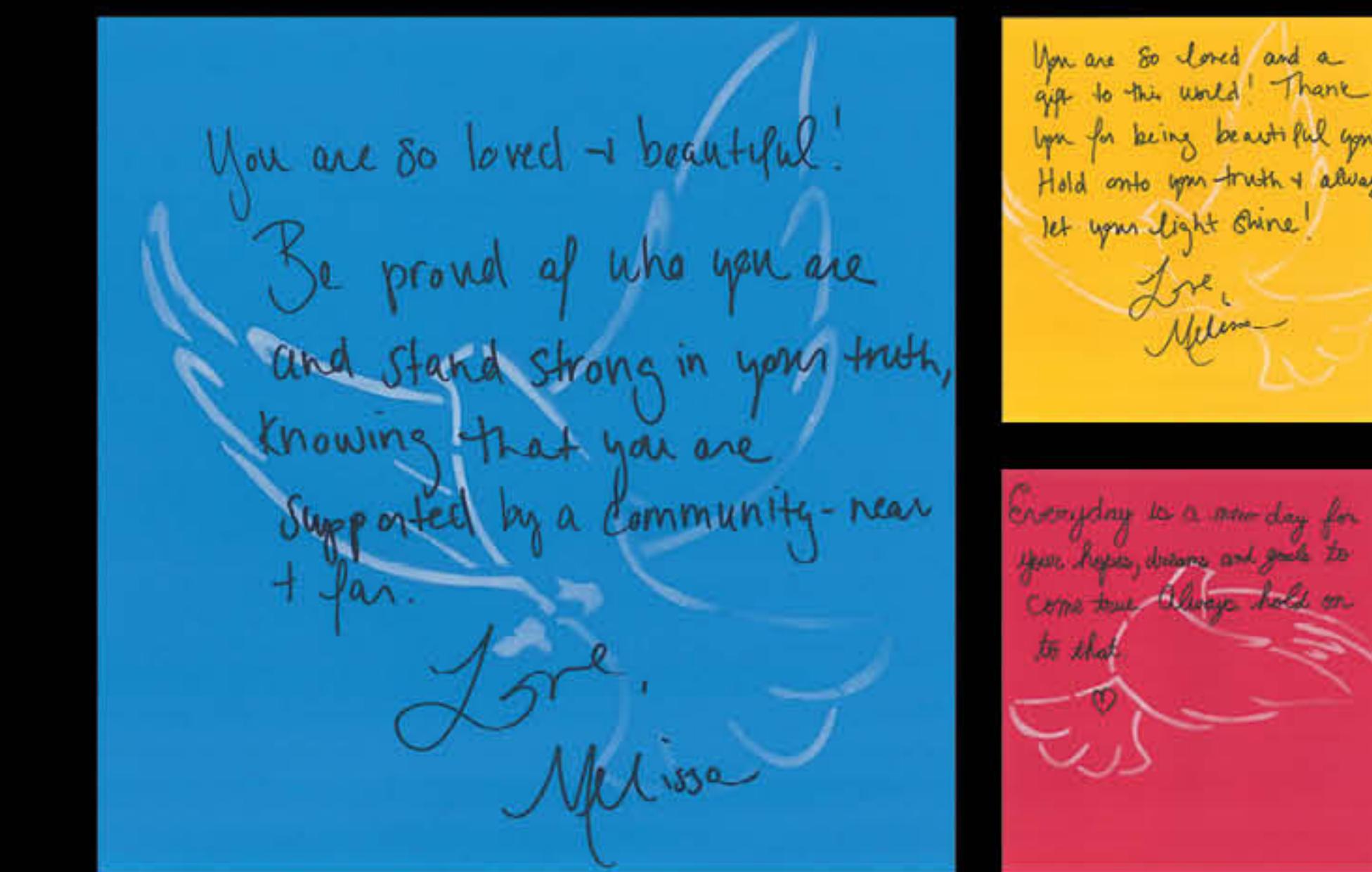
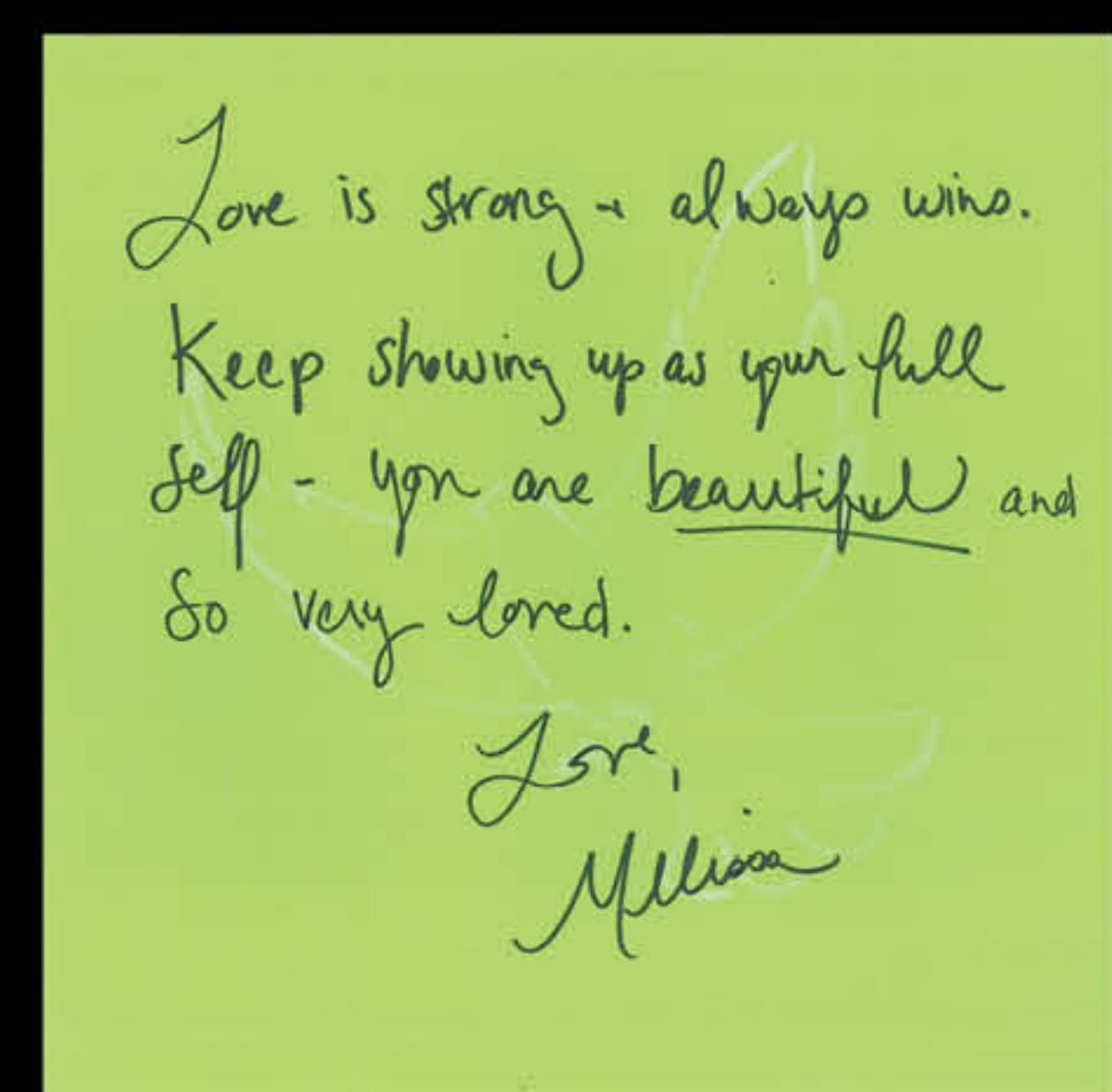
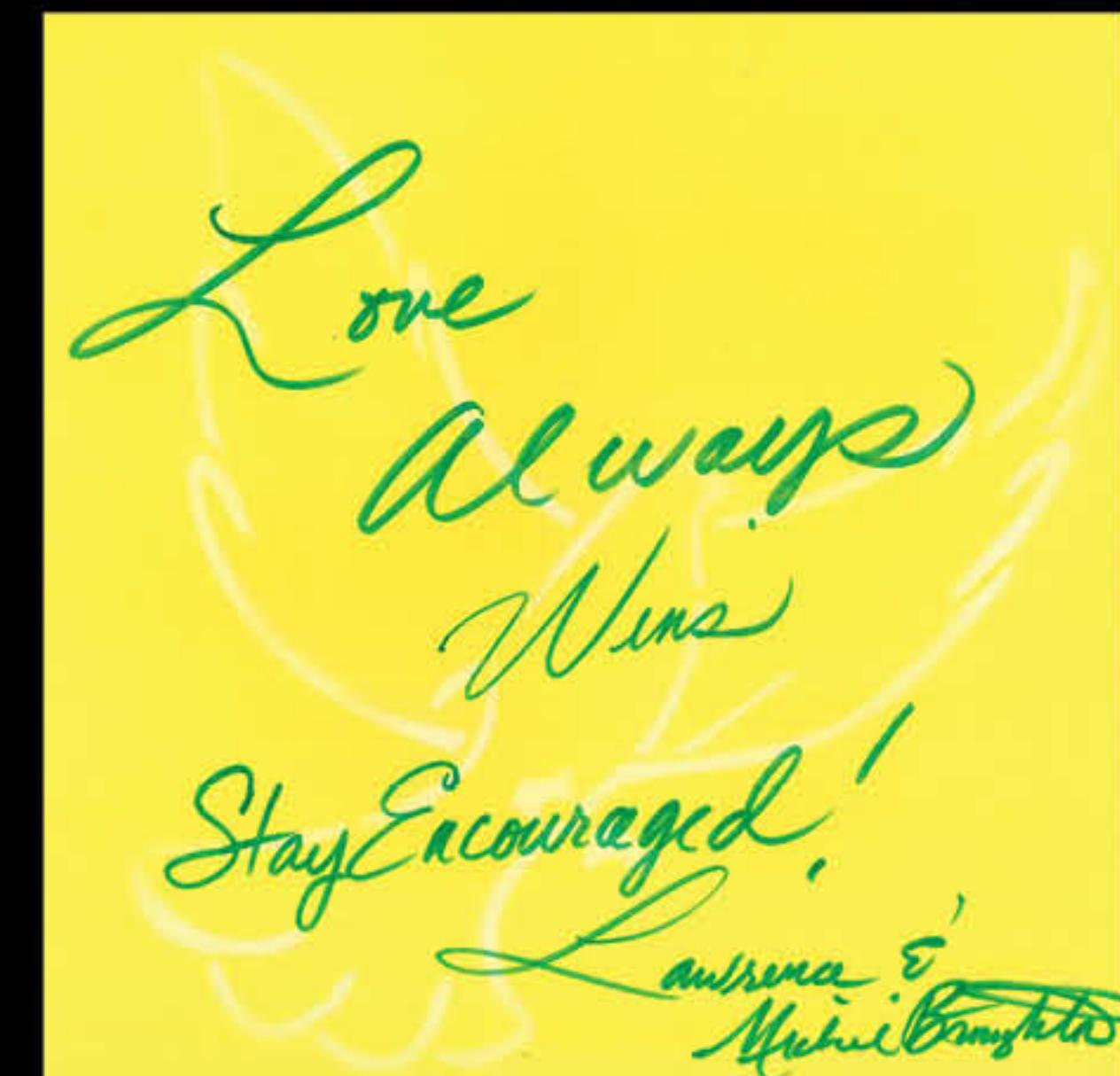
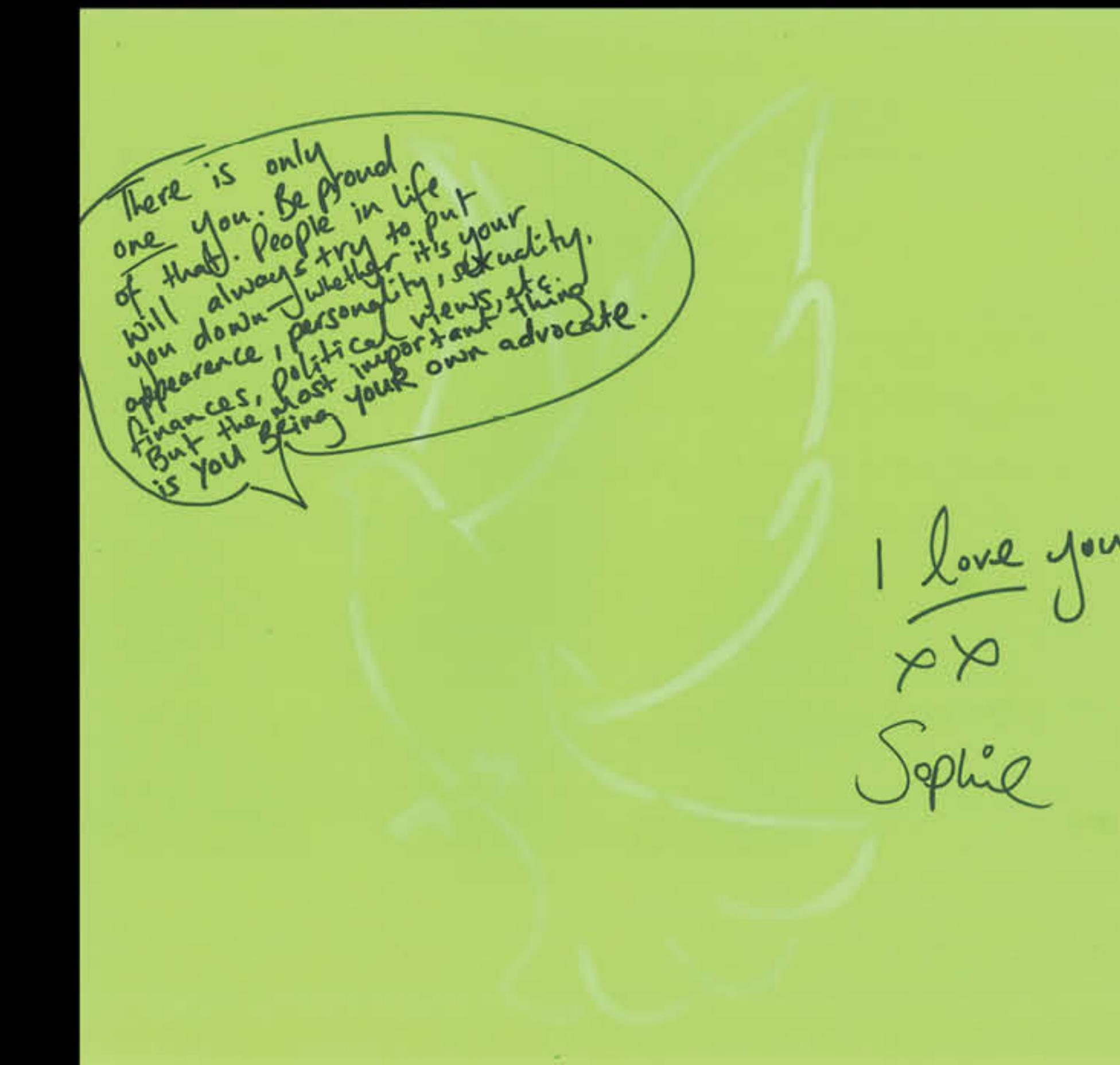
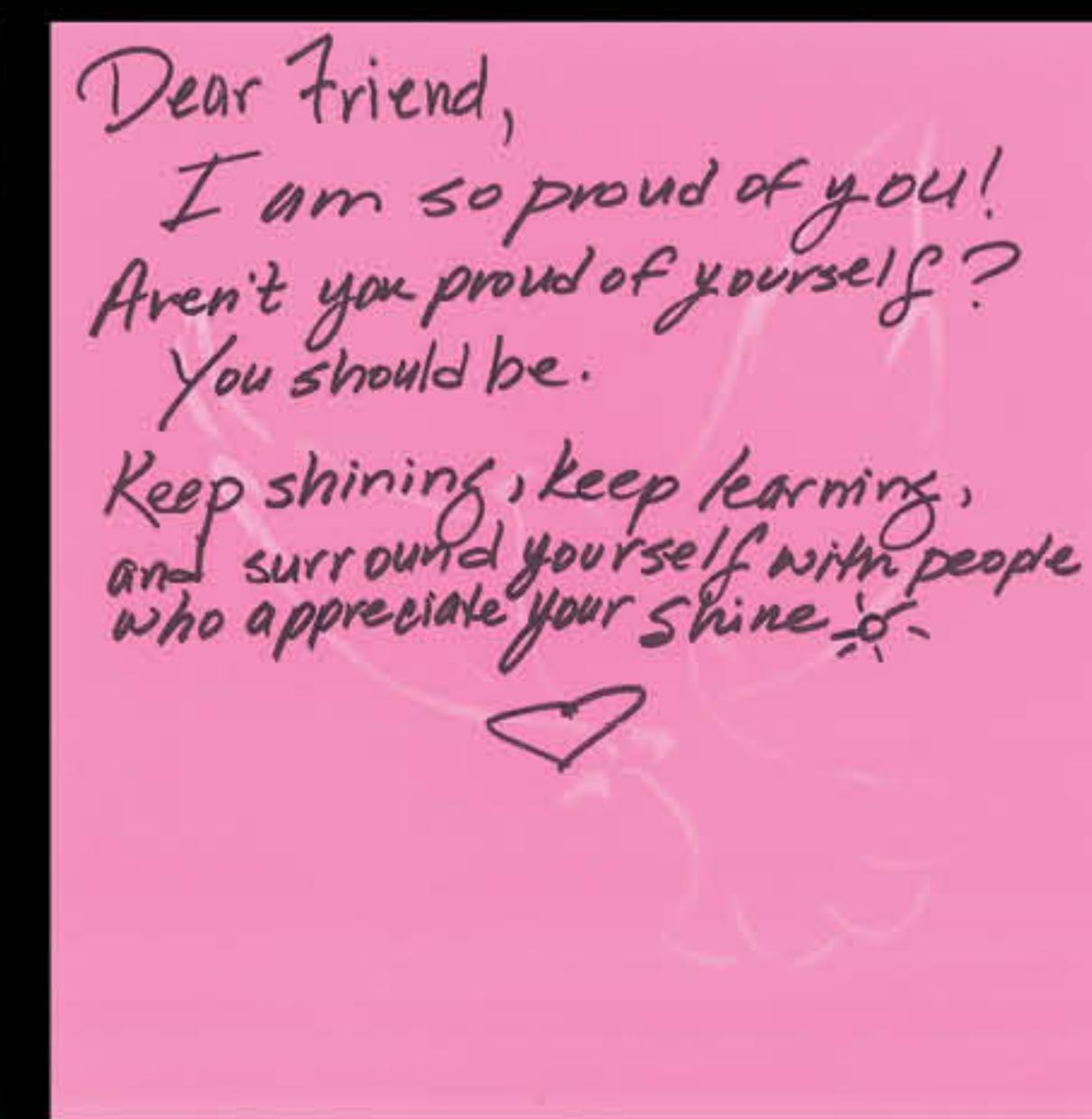
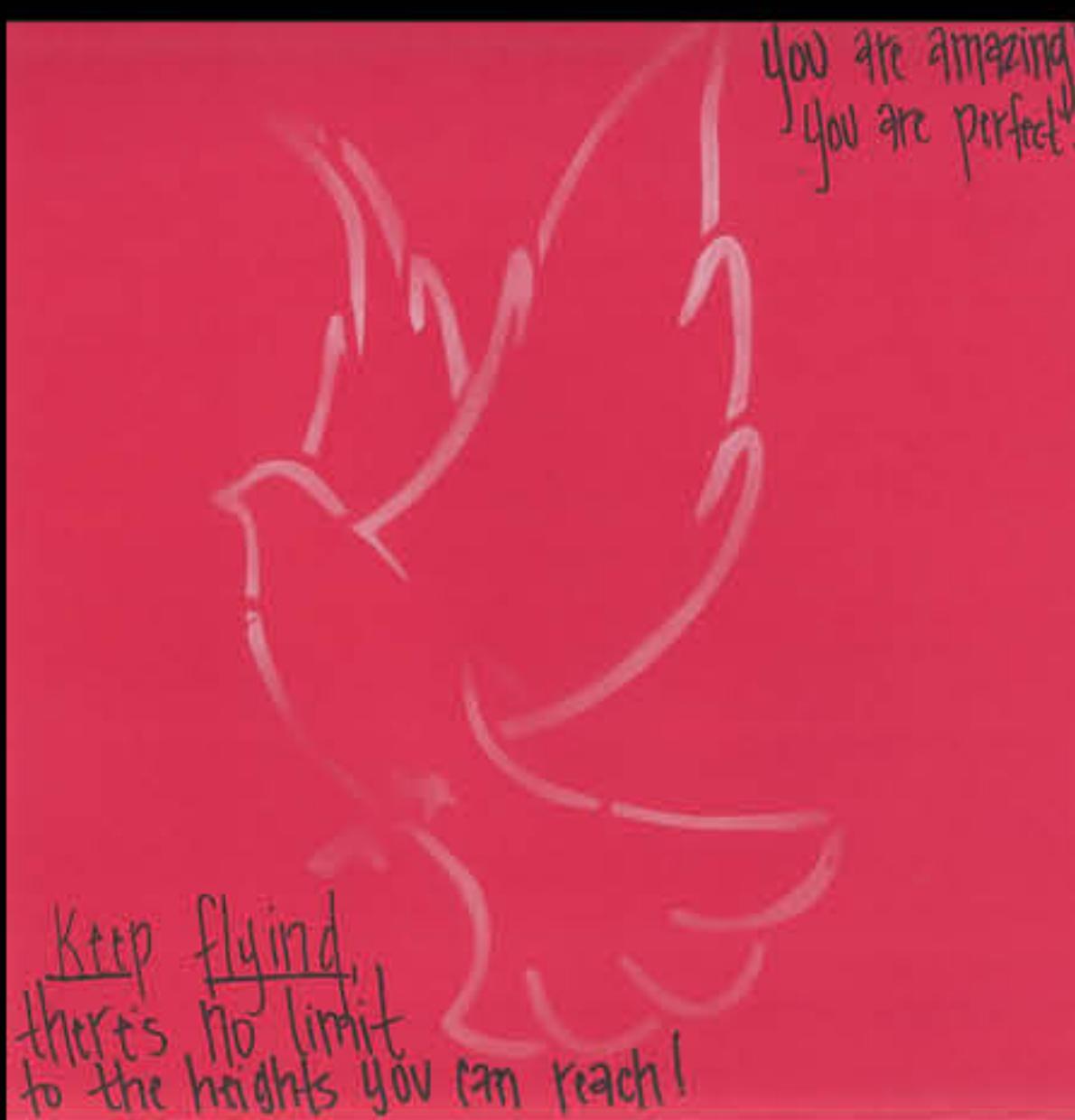
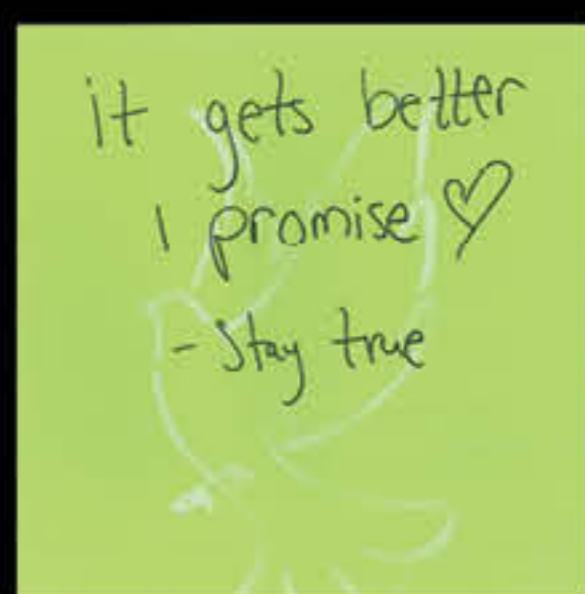
Hello Lovely!
Trust yourself and find those people who believe in you. You are truly amazing and more talented and beautiful than you know. Follow your instincts and believe in yourself.
 a stranger on a similar journey

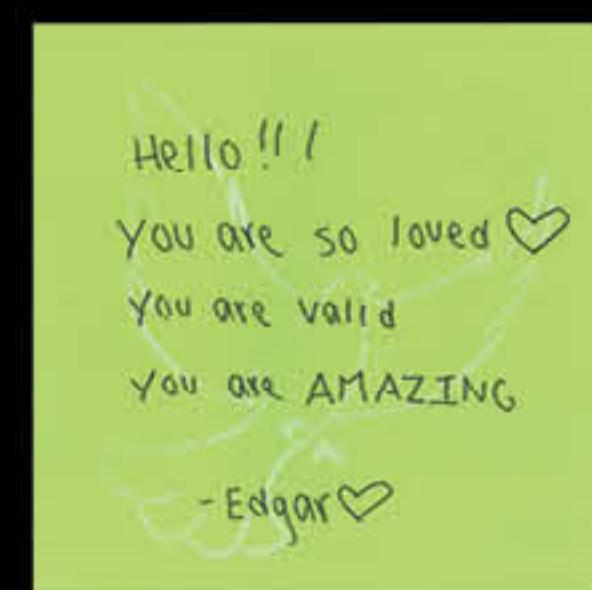
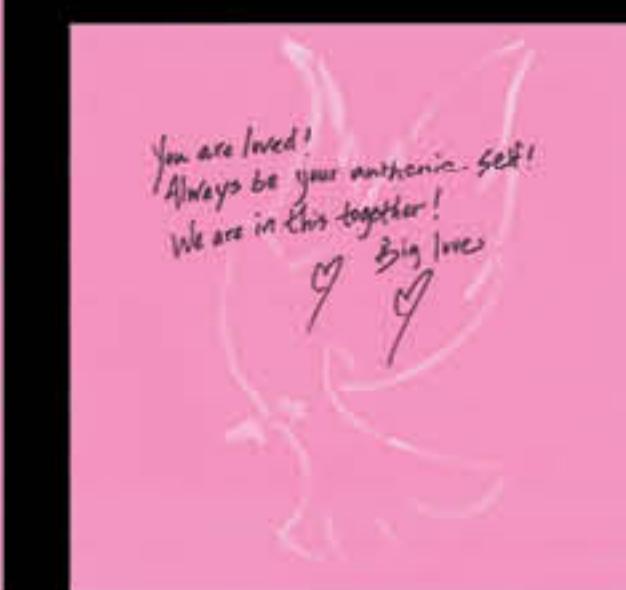
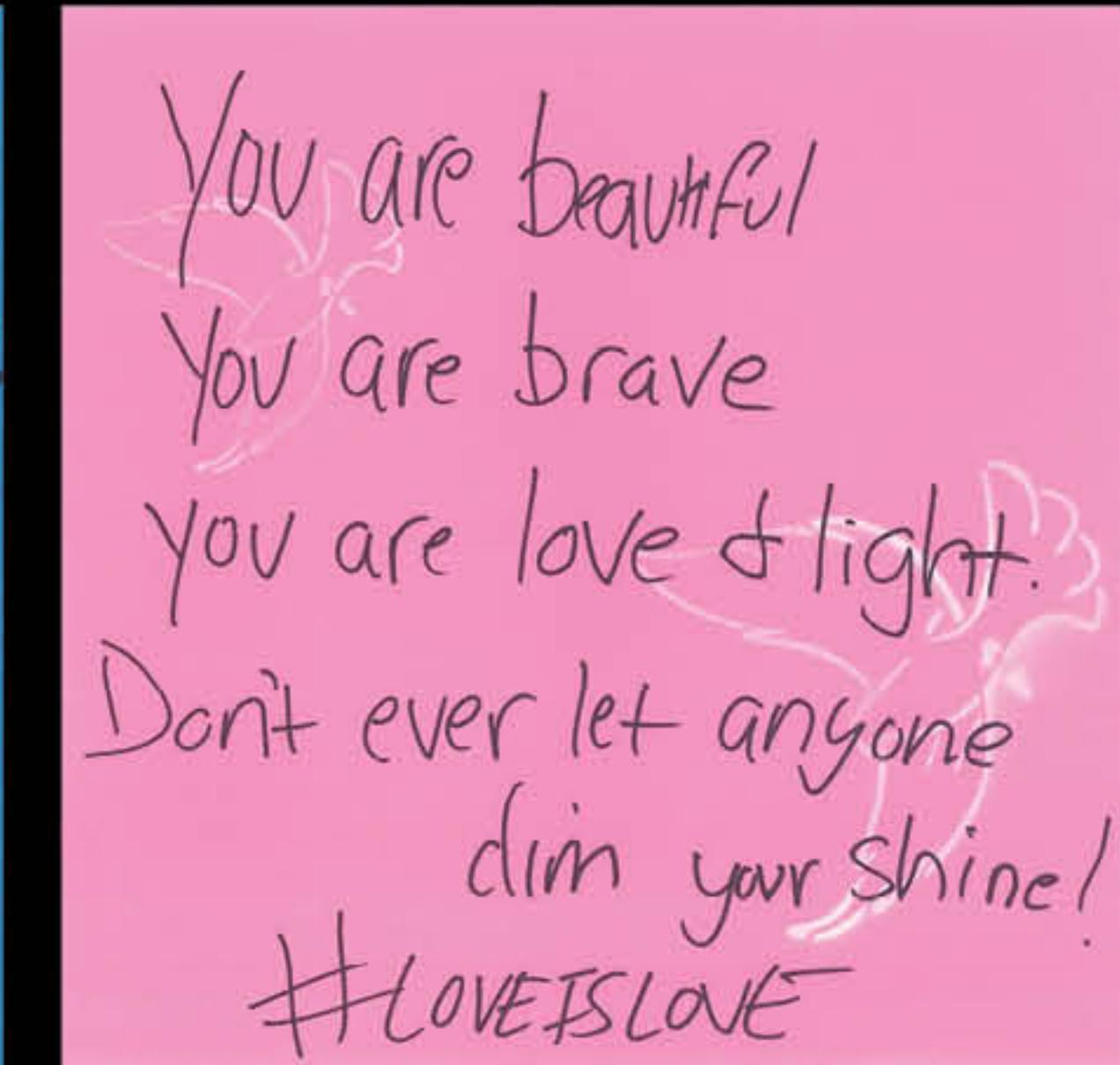
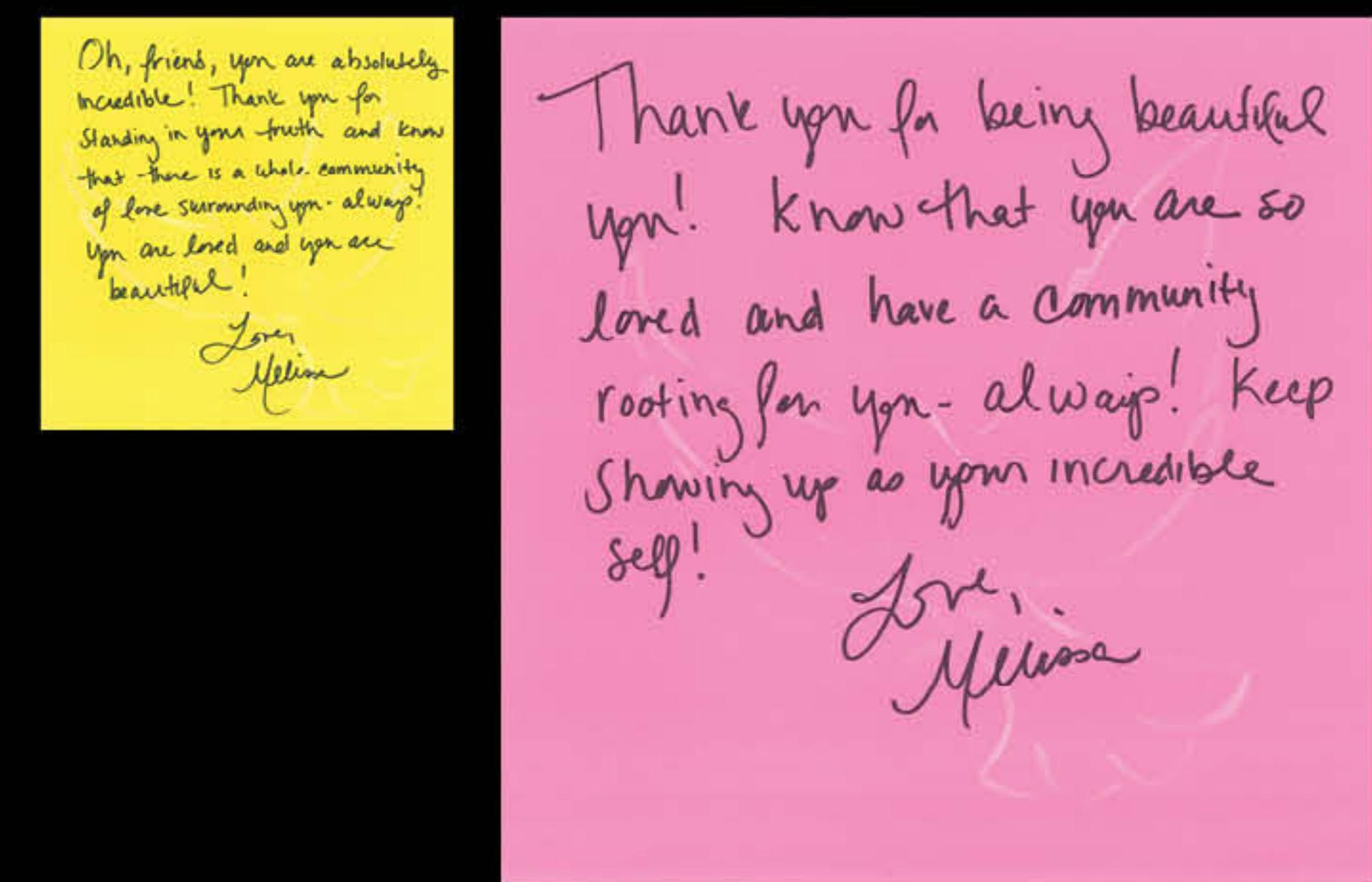
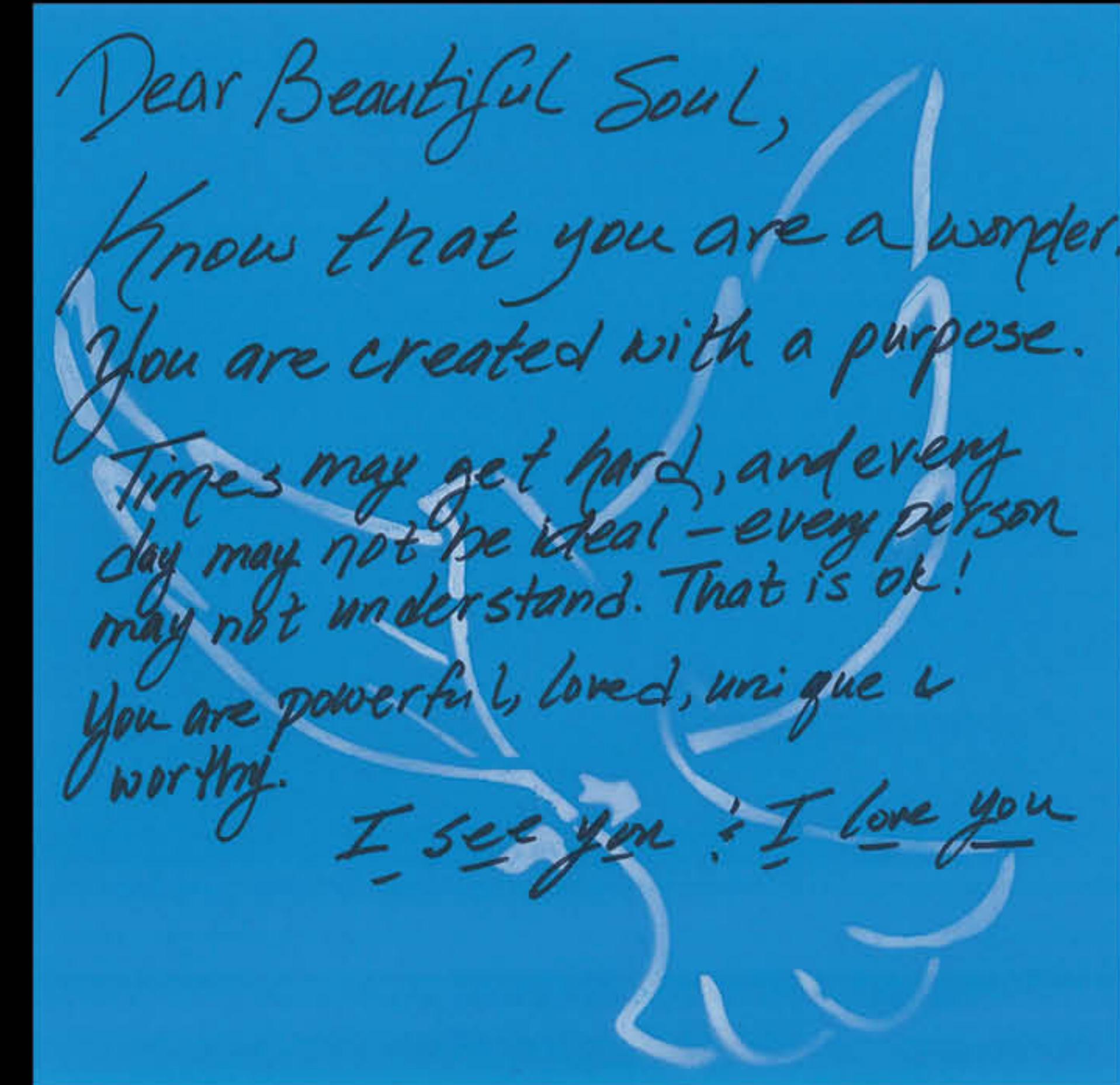
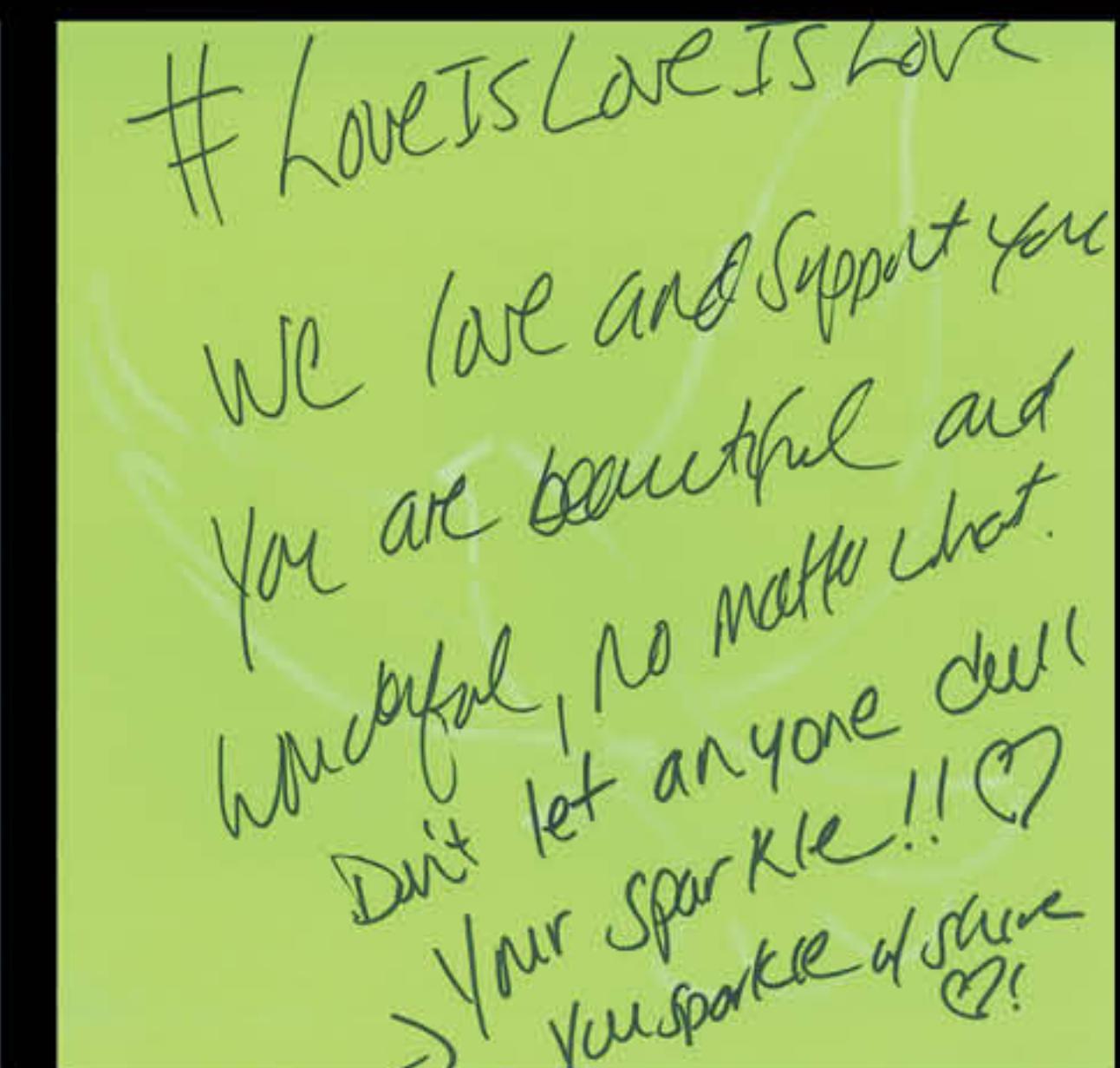
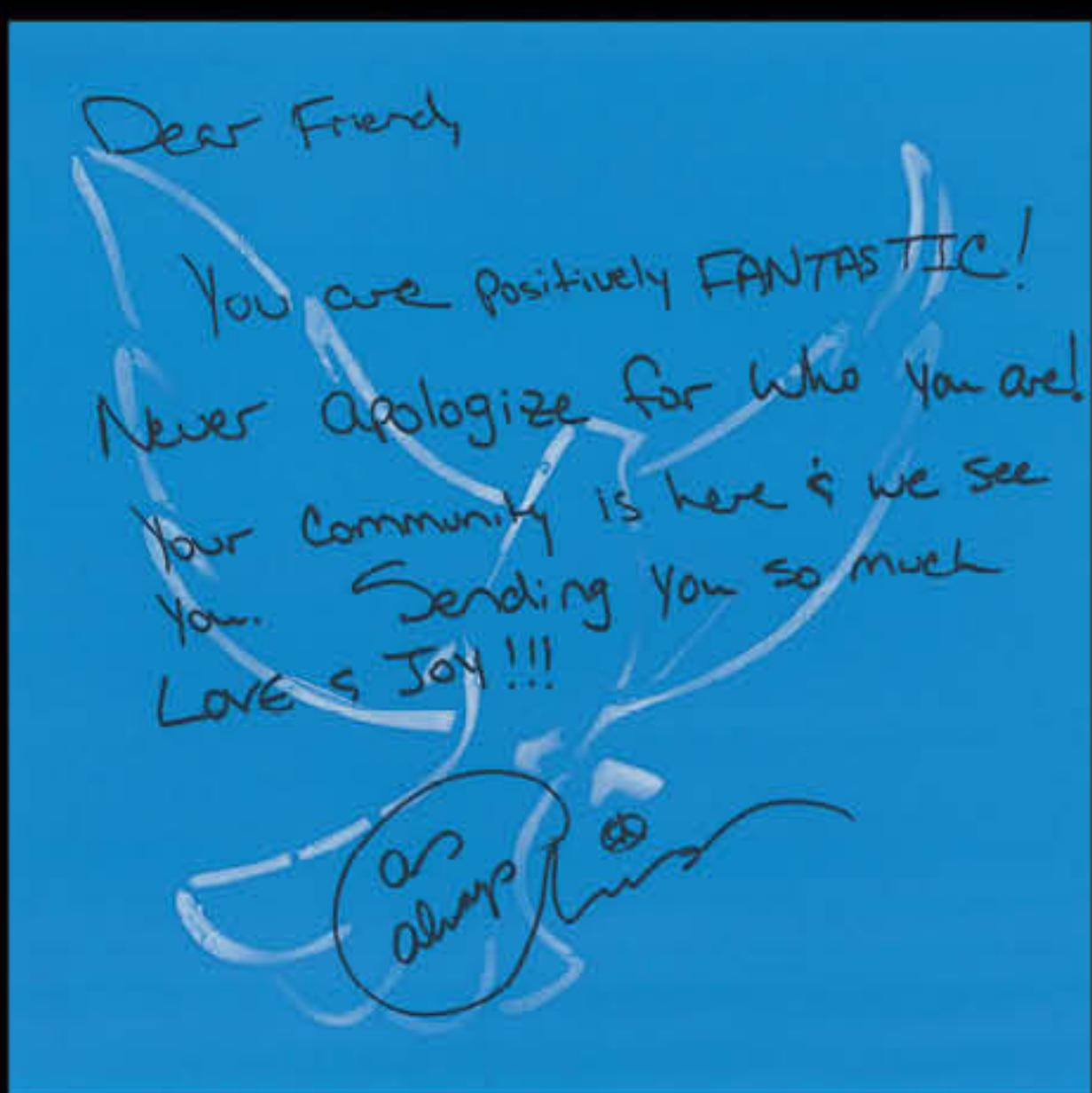
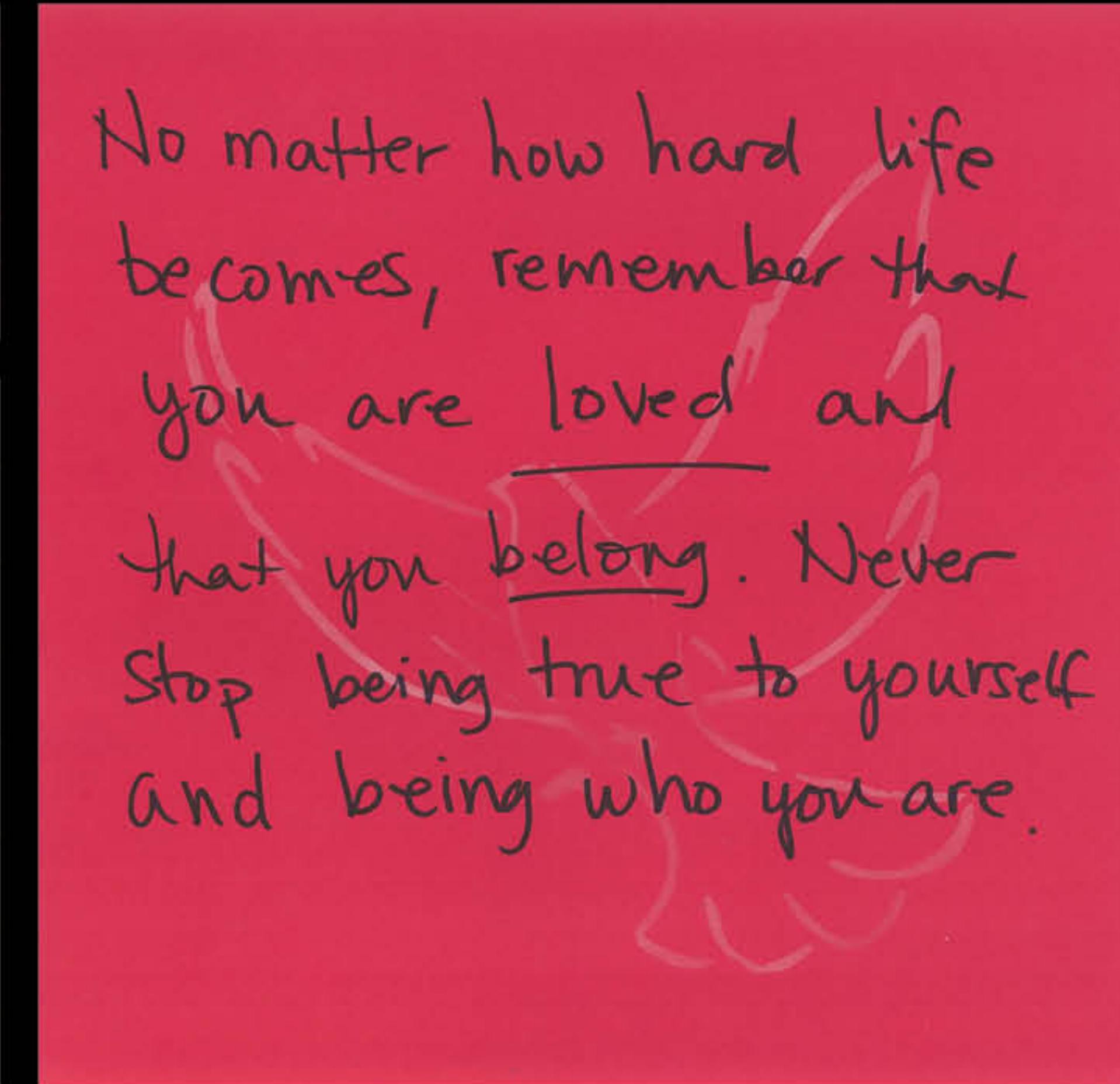
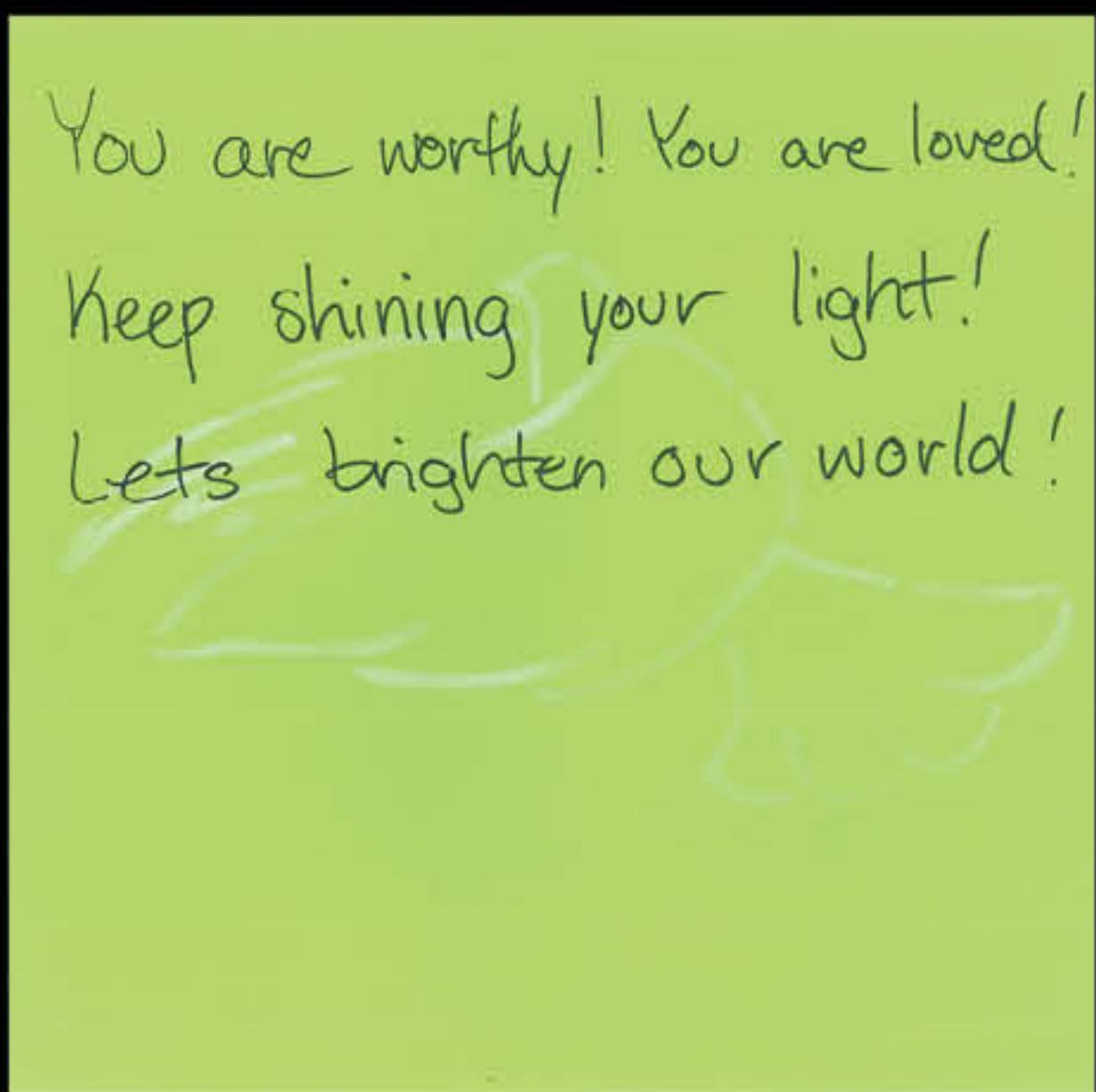
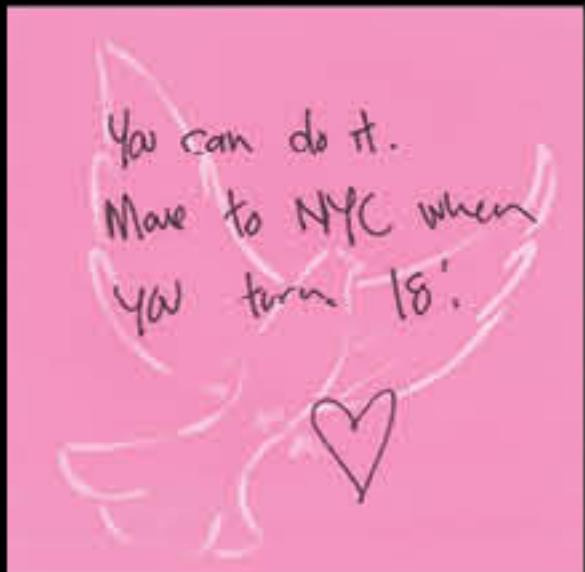
DEAR FRIEND,
WE MIGHT NOT KNOW EACH OTHER PERSONALLY, BUT MAY THESE WORDS SERVE AS A WAY TO CONNECT, AND LET YOU KNOW THERE'S ALWAYS MORE KIND SOULS THAT ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT YOU AND MAKE THIS WORLD BETTER.
YOU'RE APPRECIATED
YOU MATTER.
 my friend from NYC.



You are not alone in this world, even though there may be an entire industry devoted to making you feel isolated and alone. There are people out there working to create a better life for you and all those who will come after. We have your back, no matter what!

Love,
Tyler





You have such a bright light
and it is a gift to the world
that you are shining it!

Shine on, friend! You are
beautiful & you are loved.

Love,
Melissa

TODAY MAY SEEM HARD.
BUT KNOW THAT
ONE DAY YOU
WILL BE SURROUNDED
BY OTHERS LIKE
YOU, LOVED, SAFE,
AND EMPOWERED!
You rock!

DEAREST ANGEL,
THE WORLD IS LUCKY TO
KNOW SOMEONE AS BEAUTIFUL
& AUTHENTIC AS YOU!
KEEP BEING YOU, KEEP LOVING
PIPERCZYK!

✓ Steven

You are so loved & so beautiful!
The world needs more people who
stand in their truth - thank you
for being a bright light in the
world. Know that there is a
community standing with you-
always!

Love,
Melissa

You are amazing. Your truth
is everything. Be you.
Have joy. Feel pain.
Hug those who give
you love.

The best, most
amazing thing is to
surround yourself with
people who know you & love you.
Enjoy!

YOU
ARE
LOVED

You are loved and you are
seen! Thank you for letting
your light shine bright - it's
what the world needs.
Please know there is a whole
community standing with you-
always.

Love,
Melissa

You are loved.
You are valid.
You are amazing.

- GLAAD LA

Stay True
Be Brave
IT GETS BETTER

Thank you for being beautiful
you! Let your light
continue to shine bright and
know that you are deeply
loved, and supported by a
whole community who stands
with you - always!

Love,
Melissa

WORTH IT
YOU ARE
LOVED INCREDIBLE
BEAUTIFUL AMAZING
BRIGHT TALENTED
INVALUABLE INDEPENDENT
EVERYTHING SUCCESSFUL
STRONG

The best love
to give is the
love for yourself.

It's OK to be yourself. Despite some
hardships, coming out was the best thing
to happen to me. Find your tribe, people
who love you for who you are, and encourage
you to be yourself. Acceptance and love is out
there, I promise. The world needs you and
your queerness!

Lots of love from a late-in-life
lesbian ☺

