



The Color Me Safe Coloring Book by Tanamá Kao

Observations of a Little One:

The sun rose from the east, and now it's 10:35.
Open the door to sit down with friends
and enjoy an orange while wearing a scarf.
You don't need to talk, but if you do talk,
ask friends questions and give a vote of confidence.
Empower people and play with yarn, butterflies and crows,
Remember: we come from eggs and
our skull is there to protect our brain.



Observations of a Wayward Teenager:

My family moved up north and my life has gone south, but,
my anarchic Dragon Posse will protect us all from bullies
writing the name of tree frogs in ancient languages,
as a secret code to summon a sword protected by a
fire breathing reptile with phenomenally manicured claws,
enchanted with an air pod, sparkles and rainbow magic.
Let's celebrate by drawing a cool letter "S" on the grafittied wall.



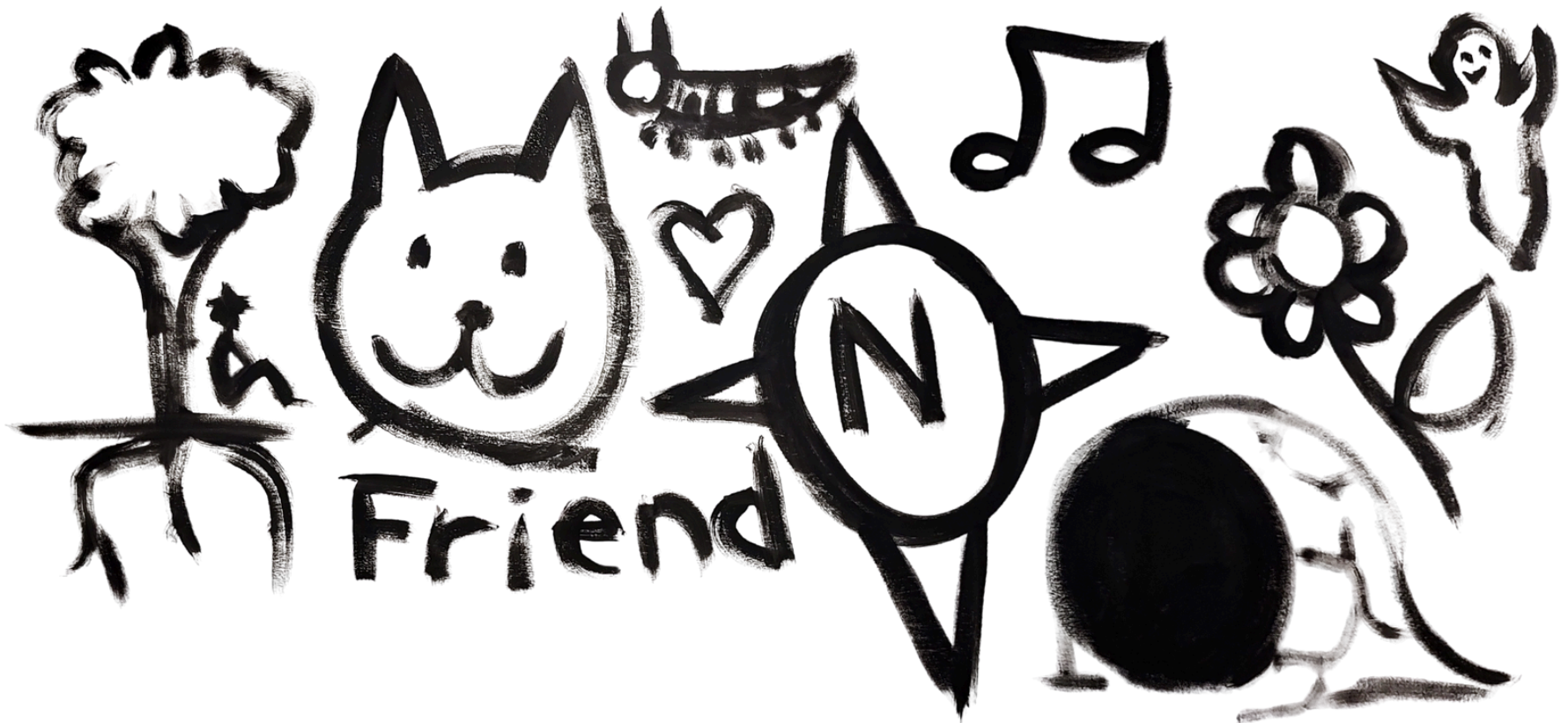
Observations of a Teaching Artist at Work:

I read the psalms and pack food before leaving my cozy nest.
Heading westward to St. Joseph, I listen to an audio book
and then music on my way there to do the job I love.
Crows and butterflies dance in my head as I walk with a friend,
wishing I could fly like a football, instead.
It's lovely to enjoy the flowers of a healing profession,
even if it's hard to get a bunch of college students to speak.



Observations of a Someone Facing Death:

My true north is cold, as I sit beneath a tree, alone.
An old friend sneaks in like a cat made of a love song
about little babies growing like catterpillars,
reminding me that this dark spot is actually an entrance
to a cozy cave surrounded by a field of flowers
paying respects to the ghosts of our ancestors and loved ones.



LYRICALITY is an experiment in intercultural creative practice. We collaborate to create poetry, performances, and installations that serve as catalysts for courageous community conversations, expanding perception and strengthening intercultural connection.

TANAMÁ KAO is a chaotic and stylish, Afro-Taíno-Celtiberian Boricua poet, multidisciplinary artist, founder of the Velvet Rasputin LLC arts collective and facilitating artist for Lyricality. Assisted by Chinyin Cheu (in the role of Cat Person), Tanamá created the first ever performance arts installation piece to be constructed in person and with assistance from a live audience at the CSB Benedicta Arts Center - Gorecki Gallery on October 3rd, 2026. This coloring book is a record of the event with poetry inspired by the COLOR ME SAFE community mural.

The Color Me Safe Wall and Coloring Book were made possible with funding from Lyricality and the College of Saint Benedict. Additional materials were provided by SCRAPS, Rice Women Of Today, and IQR. Videography courtesy of Velvet Rasputin LLC. Color Me Safe Coloring Book © 2026 by Vas Littlecrow Wojtanowicz is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

