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Written to Me Upon Getting a B in Linear Algebra

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dren in the past.

Finally, there are questions that are ignored in this article. One such question is how intrusively should technology be inserted into the problem solving context. A deeper question is what role does the subconscious play in learning math through word problems, or, in general, in any challenging intellectual activity. Partial answers to these questions may very well come from similar endeavors as this one i.e., a math educator attending to certain aspects of the NCTM Standards or the Massachusetts Frameworks.

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Written to Me Upon Getting a B in Linear Algebra

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A revised version of a poem by Serge J. Zaroodny

Like a warrior returning from a fight,
Who doth return himself, but minus foot,
The which his victory redeemeth not aright,
For he would rather have that, than his loot.

Or like a knight returning from a fray
Wherein his mighty foe he did o'erwhelm,
Yet cannot bid his thoughts to cease to stray
To broken shield, dead horse, and ruptur'd helm;

Or like a boxer coming from the ring,
Where the remains of his opponent lie,
His champ'onship deems well worth suffering,
Yet feels his head and ribs and hopes to die;

Ah, sweet the quest, but better yet without it!
My Linear Algebra! Thus do I feel about it!