

WRITING

Before I Knew How to Shine

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TYPE

NARRATIVE
POETRY

GENRE

GRADES 6–8

Before I knew how to stand,
I used to run
running away from everything I could not do
running away from the fears I did not want to face
Then I'd stop, look around, and stand
Let the fears run away and stand

Before I knew how to climb,
I used to fall
saying, "I'll do it tomorrow"
Those words just turn to dust on a book you don't
know about
Coming to a hurdle, then just running back
or going under and getting a penalty
For something to work, you have to go over it
Something that comes easy is not worth it

Before I knew how to shine,
I used to break
letting a fall get the best of me
not getting up, not fixing a tear



Breaking can shine if you know how