

Ryan is 13 years old and lives in Norfolk with his parents and brother. He has had poetry used for the Great Get Together festival. He enjoys walking, *Pokémon Go* and Anime.

To Begin The Swim
by Ryan Fowler Holden

A single toe
Dipped into the cold
Foot sinking forward
The silt pulling me in

The sea laps at my knees
A cheeky puppy nipping at my ankles
Pulling me to play
I shuffle deeper, raising my arms to the clouds

I dive
Or more honestly fall
Slicing my arms into the waves
Head pushing to the bottom

I cling there a moment
Entombed in the briny waters
My body rebels, forcing me up
Back to the surface

When I emerge,
The sun burns bright
And there I float
Happy and free