

Graduation Speechz.

First I want to I personally say that this past week has been amazing with you all, and will be something I never forget. Another day that people say they will never forget is today, but I have a truth - you will forget. There has been talk that this is OUR day - well it's not. This day isn't just our day; it is our parent's day, and a day for all of those who have helped us along the way. Today is to celebrate our FOUR YEARS and ALL that we have accomplished. This day will be a haze of a memory in twenty years that you piece together while sitting outside on a sunny day just like this one that made you think of it in the first place. But your memories that you have made at Skidmore with those around you will always be influencing your thoughts, your mood, and your choices. So I am not here to talk about today, or about Skidmore, I am here to tell you to forget today and celebrate. I am here to remind you to always remember our history together and how it has made who you are now - sitting in front of me.

No one here is the same as when they started at Skidmore. Today is not the day you transformed into a skillful young adult, it has been your time as a Skidmore student, whether that has been travelling around the world, staying off campus as much as possible, or completely engulfing yourself in the Skidmore culture. I have been lucky enough to experience all of those. We have to remember where we all started to remind us of how we have grown in these years. I started at Skidmore a - *I just turned 18* - spunky confident oddball off on a conquest to the East Coast from the West Coast. I did not have my past following me and the idea of a fresh future made my mouth water, I wanted it. I shipped my entire life over to little ol' Saratoga Springs, my new home. I was off on my adventure. That adventure has led me into experiences that we all now share

together. Who here hasn't loved on some late night fries while laughing with friends, left some part of their soul in the library, or just went roaming around Saratoga Springs on a sunny day? But the memories that most important are not the ones we all share together, it is the memories that we have had with those who are close to us that matter most. The memoires of when you had reached your limit, you broke down and your friends helped you to pull through, the days they lent a listening ear, the times you all had just a little too much fun... but really it was just the right amount. I am not invincible, I could not be here without all of those who supported me and made me smile everyday. We aren't sitting here in our itchy warm caps and gowns to celebrate the day, we are here to celebrate the past four years - the FOUR YEARS that have made you who are and those experiences. Today I celebrate that I have come to be a strong women who knows what she wants because of those around me and the years I have spent with them.

So if you want to remember today, as we all look so dashing and groomed, go ahead, I don't care. I will remember climbing to the roof of Case and star gazing, I will remember crowd surfing at MSTKRT, I will remember poring over never-ending stacks of empirical articles, and like I said at the beginning, I will remember my senior week experience, not today. I charge you all to hold your head high for successfully completing college, to celebrate these past four years of being a Skidmore student, and to celebrate with those around you that you have experienced them with today and at reunions to come. Cheers to us, lets celebrate!

