

Triangles and Light Tricks

Judo tells me that you are weakest to the front and back of your hip-width stance. If I place my foot in the right spot and create a triangle between us, I can throw you.

You're supposed to leave enough distance for potential.

Without distance, there's no room to move, and there's no throw.

I usually step too far in, and then we're stuck there,

both of us unbalanced, both of us waiting

for gravity to decide.

Teddy S., 3:09 PM: Did you know that they are the building blocks for most computer generated graphics? It's because they are easiest for a system to process.

Everything can be created using

triangles and light tricks.

I wanted to write an homage to the triangles in your art but I once wrote a poem about a Mark

Rothko painting and a poetry professor told me it was like I

“had run up and tongue-kissed the painting”. He said it was

the most extensive intervention

he'd ever made.

Winter of my 8th grade year: Mr. Kriz shows us how to derive Pascal's triangle. He's sweating, using the whiteboard cloth to mop his forehead. He finally turns to us: shining, triumphant, face smeared with dry-erase marker. “This,” he said, spreading his arms wide,

“is a thing of beauty.” He beams, and
everyone snickers.

Kirsten A., 1:41 PM: Those damn triangles. How do you figure that shit out?

The funny thing about physics is that if you calculate something wrong,
a body falls upward at an impossible speed, defying gravity
and common sense.

The serious thing about judo is that if you calculate something wrong,
you get thrown on your head. That’s what you get for not
paying attention to the triangles.