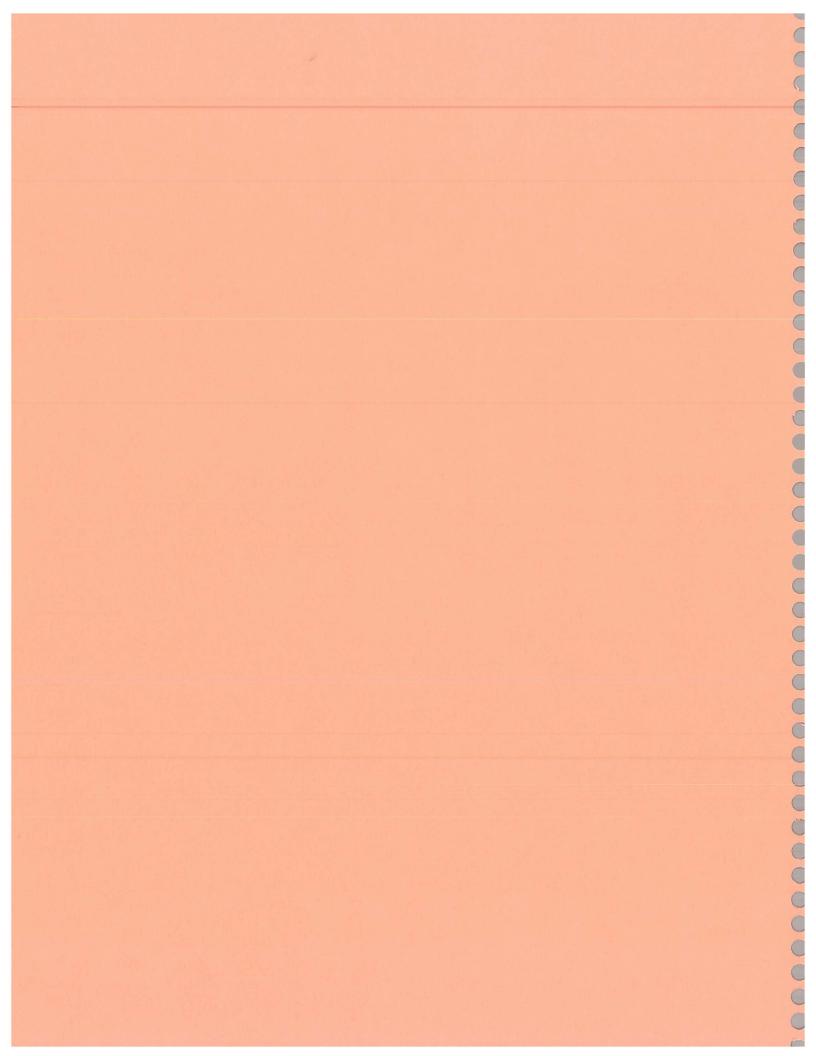
# RETROSPECT

# PRODUCED BY CREATIVE WRITING CLUB



CRC!





## Inspiration By Anonymous

Sometimes we're scared and don't know what to do Sometimes we're afraid of what others will say We can't fully understand God's plan and that makes it harder when we don't get our way

You get to that point
When nothing matters anymore
When all you can do
Is question yourself

But don't doubt your abilities
Be proud of who you are
Follow your dreams
And complete your goal

Don't quit early
For it's just the beginning
Life will go on
And the finale will be amazing

Caitlin Clark



- -Please?
- -Why?
- -Please?
- -Why?
- -Please.
- -But-
- -Alright.
- -Please?

The essential part of creativity is not being afraid to fail.

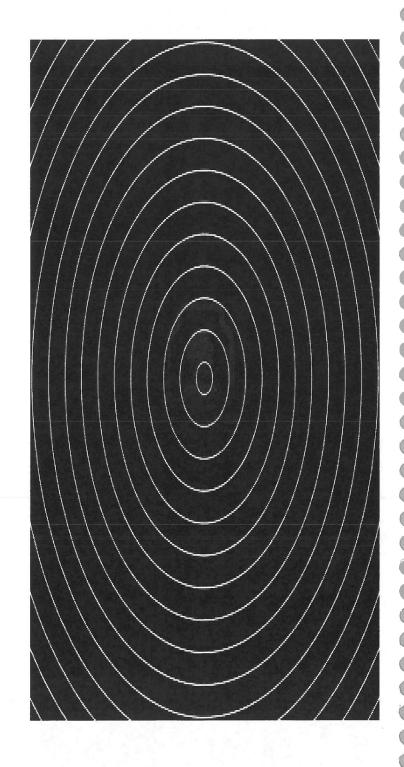
— Edwin H. Land

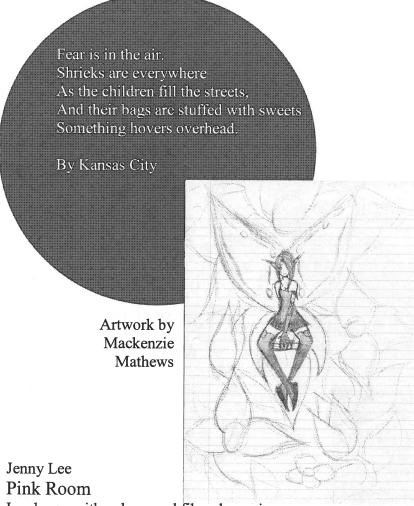
### Left and Right

Caitlin Clark

Left and right Up and down Here and there I put it somewhere Look and look But never find Where is that thing of mine?! Hours and hours Lost is lost Best give up the search Too much was cost Sigh of despair Hold head in disbelief Wait a minute! There it was all along! Oh, good grief...

## Love Like Leaving





Halloween Night By St. Louis

The ghosts come out to play.

But the audience does not have to pay
For the fear they will fell until May.

Scream are in the air.

Shoes are away from their pair.

People can taste the fear from Zaire.

The steps of blood fill the street.

The guts are spread apart like meat.

The bodies are collected in sheets.

Welcome to Halloween.

I wake up with a dress and fiberglass wig on me.

My surroundings are really weird, like those old houses in Sherlock Holmes or some Charles Dickens movie.

I arise from a plastered, white bed with cotton candy quilts that overwhelm my body.

More plastered furniture scatter throughout the room and I realize how much the quilts match the walls of the room.

An overstuffed teddy bear smiles with button eyes as I scan through a room that is locked.

The windows are also sealed but I can see through it.

Another room is outside!

Is this an illusion? A dream? A nightmare?

What happened last night?

The roof lifts itself up and behemoth face grins with curls longer than me.

Even bigger, fat hands descend from above and wraps an octopus grip at my miserable self.

Happy Halloween!

## Where am I? By Charles Reed Garoutte

I find myself unable to move. I struggle to move even an inch, but I find it's no use. I can't hear anything other than

#### Peace in 3

Anonymous

The traffic light is a great tool.

It lets some go and others stop, or slow.

The power of 3 colors—red, yellow and green—overlapping black.

It influences people, but few ignore it still.

Accidentally inspired by a great man.

Can you guess who he is?

I butchered a lamb
I saw it cry
I exclaimed my
nonexistent guilt

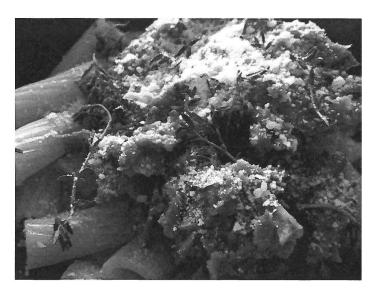
By Bob Bruya

The Apple Llama
Knows only kindness
Brings joy to tiny children
With delicious apples
And llama fur coats
Cleaning their feet
And brushing their teeth
Leaving the children
Happy and clean
As it waves good-bye
Flying on a magic rainbow
By Caitlin Clark

#### The Desert Search

**IEM Weidert** 

Desert crossing Wisps of sun baked sand As sluggish creatures slurth across the empty sun Cooked earth splits along thirsty lips to gasp in dusted clouds My sights will not fail me today Nor tonight, nor morning after. The skittled stones slip beneath the sparkling gold waves As bones crumble against the weathered scape. Yet I will not be deterred— My treasure still to find Somewhere beneath the endless dunes My love is waiting Stand strong, my heart, For I will find Throughout my trials and pains Below the dust of ages past my final wants and gains



Vegetable Delight by Tess Maczis

Sugar Rush by Tess Maczis



The puddles filled with coffee I looked into a coffee cup And found my eyes Big glassy spheres of clear brown And caramel drops the size of rain Rolling down a chocolate slope And sugar powdered cake The kangaroos bounce a meager existence On their big circus balls Go rolling reddening by Across a graffiti and cinnamon sky On the wings of vultures Circling an empty descent A delicious cookie crumb descent Whose sands flaked lonely Over whitening skeleton forms Which I why I don't drink coffee.

By Isabella Weidert

#### Charles Reed Garoutte

When some people win, must others lose, or are there situations in which everyone wins?

At times in your life you will think of the exact question. The answer is simple, yet difficult to understand. There will come a time in your life when a storm will come. You will bask in the sun one moment, be bashed against the rocks the next. What matters is what you do when that storm comes. In life you win & you lose, life is only a game but it's still a life. It doesn't matter whether you win or lose, just whether or not you lived a life full of friendship, love, and happiness.

To win or lose is not the pint of the game. It is to have fun, take risk, & make mistakes. No one is perfect, and even then being human isn't to be perfect, but to have flaws. If man was meant to be perfect, then there wouldn't be death, sickness, or hatred. Someone who searches for the perfect blossom will never find it. For it is in front of them from the start.

When someone "wins" they only get a better score. Those who "lose" tend to be better the next time they play. Those who "lose" learn from their actions & end up winning in the end.

Blah Blah Blah
I bleat
Bleat Bleat Bleat
The lamb blahs

Miquelle Radich

Inspired by Amandeep Kaila

Like cold, Black coffee One spits out after tasting-Bitter, mind and soul

Bob Bruya

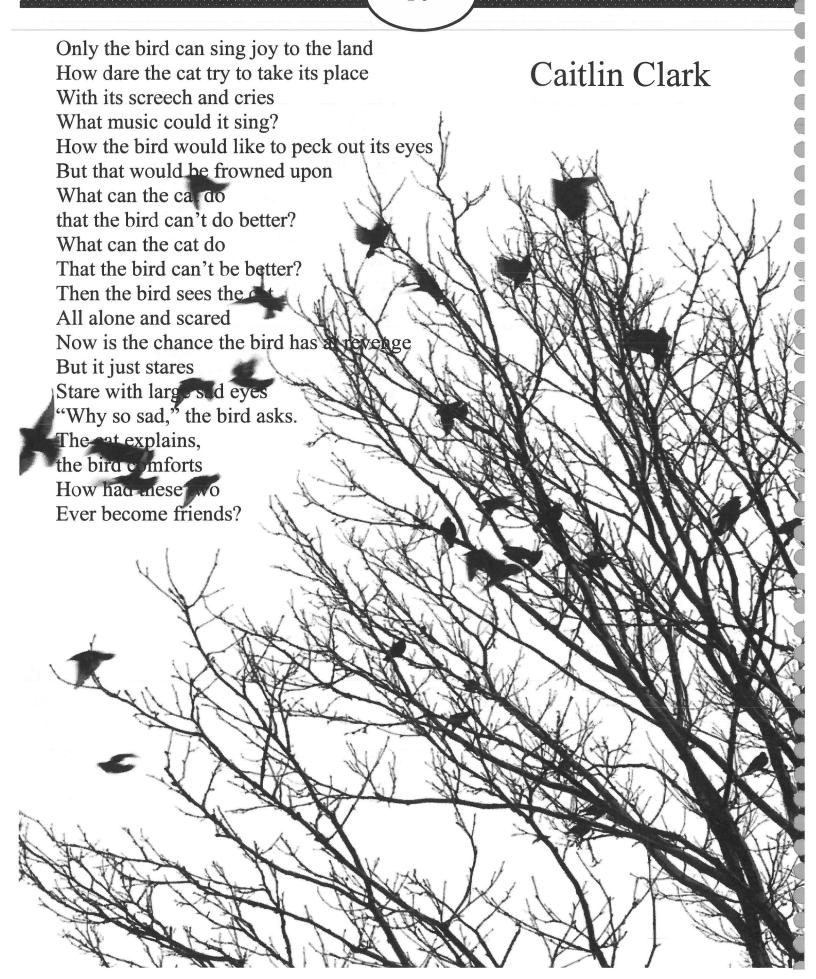
### Caitlin Clark

Meow, Meow
Purr, Purr
Cute and fuzzy,
Nothing but fur,
I'll melt your heart
And steal your soul
Kitty to love
So take me home



#### Ohm

- Who can walk on crystal stairs, hurrying to get
- To the pages of their thoughts
- Or make the mist on a summer's dawn dance over
- The volumptuous folds of a well-baked souffle
- Contemplating toasters shooting out stars after eating
- Multiple green beans can cause one to lose oneself in
- The vast emptiness that is the mind
- But if you can walk on a clear elevation in pursuit of that star spangled banner that all hold in their thoughts, you have truly won.
- -Caralyn Cutlip



#### "Dad"

"Daddy," I whispered as I crept through the dark, still house. I couldn't find my mommy, she still hadn't come back from her trip yet. She had been gone for so long. But, maybe she would come back with a present, like she always does when she goes on her trips. Then, I hear the creak of the stairs and I know daddy is nearby. Smiling, I scurry to the noise, seeing daddy slowly walk up the stairs, his big boots thumping on the hard wood.

Before I run to him, I peek around the corner to see him. He's very wet, dripping with rainwater. I give him a small frown. Mommy will be mad that he is soaking the hall carpet. I should tell him to put those wet clothes up.

"Daddy!" I cried, bounding to him, fully ready to tell him what mommy always tells me about putting wet clothes on the radiator to dry. He catches me but just barely, seeming very surprised. Why? Silly daddy should know I am here.

He holds me up, looking down at me with a very white skin and scary eyes. They look so cold, scary.

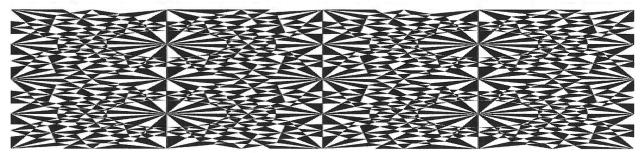
"Daddy?" I whispered, afraid to be too loud. He reminded me of my kitty, Whiskers. Whiskers got scared and ran away if you were too loud.

"Yeah honey bug?" He questioned back but he didn't sound right. He sounded weird.

"Where's mommy, daddy?" I asked and suddenly, daddy's eyes began to leak. Daddy was crying? How? Daddy never cried, daddy was too brave to cry.

"Jilly... sweetie...mommy isn't coming home, she...she's no longer gonna be around," He said, his voice getting all creaky. How could mommy not be coming back? She was just on one of her trips, just like always!

"Silly daddy, mommy is just on one of her trips!" I smiled, wiping the water from his cheeks, but that made him more unhappy as he cried hard and held me tight. Where was mommy, surely she could help?



The years after Karen's, or *mother's*, death had passed and there I was, a teenager who had no mom and a dad who worked for the city as a construction foremen. We had to move to a small house in the middle of the city 'cause my dad couldn't afford our old farm house. He had apologized about it a lot. Like I cared? It was a stupid house anyway. The hot water heater barely got anything up to luke-warm, the ceiling leaked when it rained and we were ten miles away from civilization.

"Good riddance," I muttered softly as we packed up the last moving box.

I went to public high school, where I met my first boyfriend, Ronny. Bruce, or "dad," never liked Ronny but I didn't care. Me and Ronny, we were in love, not a person could separate us. Not even my stupid dad...

"You did great, honey," Stephen, my husband, murmured softly as he kissed my forehead. I felt dizzy, but happy as I coddled my new baby boy to my chest. He had finally stopped screaming long enough to drift off to sleep, thank goodness.

"Knock, knock," A soft, gravelly voice grunted from the entrance of my hospital room. I looked up with a smile to see my dad nervously shuffling in. He had hated hospitals ever since mom died. I didn't blame him; I didn't like hospitals either.

"Hi dad," I murmured quietly as he reached the bed. He looked happy, deep wrinkles fanning out from around his steely blue eyes. He looked like he had aged rapidly since the last time that I saw him.

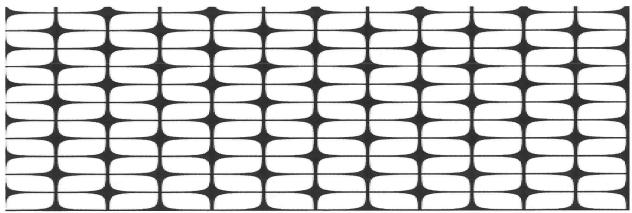
"I just came to see how you and the little tyke were doing," He grunted after briefly congratulating my husband with a pat on the back.

"Good," I beamed, softly stroking Jr.'s cheek with my knuckles, "Did you wanna hold him?"

I wasn't used to my father falter, but he did, just slightly. He shuffled back slightly before he nodded. Gently, I held Jr. out to him.

With the arms of a very experienced father, he held my little boy and a smile graced his face.

"Beautiful," He whispered softly, his eyes turning glassy with unshed tears.



I did not, honestly, expect to be back in the hospital so soon after my third child. But there I sat, as a visitor this time. My father had been admitted last night. Why? I didn't know, but I was determined to find out.

"Mrs. Jacobs?" A nurse in azure scrubs questioned. My head shot up and I gave a sharp, stiff nod.

She smiled sadly and said, "You can see your father now."

Practically knocking over my chair, I stood. The nurse didn't looked too surprised as I passed her quickly, desperately praying that my father would be okay when I saw him.

"Jilly bean," his voice was virtually non-existent as I looked him over in sheer terror. He had so many tubes sticking out of him, and in the large bed, he looked small. His skin was pale and gaunt. But his eyes, they were full and warm.

"Oh, Daddy," I almost sobbed as I practically through myself into his open arms. He gently wrapped the thin sticks around me and held me with more strength than I anticipated.

"Wh-what happened to you, daddy?" I managed to choke out. I was a 35 year old woman, and still I was reverting to the emotions of a child. How could this be happening?

"I have terminal cancer Jilly bean, and I seem to be on my way out..."

The rain pounds but I barely notice as I stare at the small, yet elegant headstone. A thousand memories rush back to me, some of the funeral service, others of random tid-bits of my life, but all of them involve my late father. I can still hear his guttural laugh and see all those calm, kind eyes. But I'm not surprised. He had only died a year ago, after all.

"Honey, do you want to head back?" Stephen asks me quietly. He stands by me, just like he has done for the past year, every time I visit my father's grave.

"We probably should," I reply, but he knows my heart isn't in it to leave just yet. He falls silent and waits.

I have read this stone a thousand or more times, but it still puts a large lump in my throat every time my eyes skim over it.

"Here lies Bruce Alfred Jefferson, Beloved grandfather and father, 'Dad, to the world you might be one person, but to one person you might just be the world."

By: Mackenzie Matthews

#### The Sun Always Sets By Halee Harrell

There was never a day when we didn't know what to do. Between running after cats and playing super spies, we were constantly occupied. The heat that summer seemed almost unreal, most days we could spend the whole day outdoors in not much more than shorts and a hand-me-down shirt four sizes too big. No one who left the house wanted to leave the fun. Even the sun was hesitant to leave the sky, as it lackadaisically squatted rather than set in the distance. The one thing that couple rip us from our adventures was Mrs. Dunlop's tater top casserole. It was only upon the first bite, and the rush of warmth from pony tailed head to sparkly toes, that we realized the sun had gone down, abandoning us and our plans for more playtime.

It was over her now famous dish she gave us the news that sent us squealing. The Holmans were in town again, a family we had grown up with, consisting of two elder siblings, along with a boy our brother's age, and a girl ours, Kassidy. We hadn't seen her in almost three years, a third of our life, as we readily pointed out. They had to move to be closer to a hospital, they were a incident prone family.

On came the konga line. We paraded through the house proclaiming her due visit, dancing and yelling—the only way we knew to handle excitement. Over the years, she had become somewhat of a legend among the baseball sisters. We recalled playing with her during long baseball tournaments, swimming at hotels, and most of all, her knee sense of adventure. We were imaginative, but she made us look like copycats. We were crazy, but she made us look like fuzzy bunnies. She was up for anything, she was the toughest girl we knew.

When her mom's car finally pulled in the drive the next day, we were close to bursting with ecstasy. The door opened, and there was the Kassidy we knew. But she didn't seem to like what we remembered. Was she always that much smaller than us? Had she always hugged this close to her mom? We were sure she was only nervous, or sleepy, it was a long drive from Seattle.

1

When we got into the play room, we asked what she wanted to do. Paint our faces like clowns? Dress up and make a music video? Neither of us expected what was next. She asked if we had any Barbies? Barbies? We assumed she had some ulterior motive to playing with Barbies. We'd see, she'd crack us up somehow. But the joke never came. The punch line remained undelivered. What was going on? We looked at her. Peacefully playing by herself, creating a cheerful life for Barbie and Ken. Let's do something else, we decided. As the day went on, we pulled out the old Kassidy. We were bounding down the stairs, leaping over couches and giggling at our made up languages. It was just like she had never moved, except something on her kept beeping, and she had to wear a mask to play outside. But the day had to end. I never did learn why the sun had to set on such perfect days. We bid goodbye to Kassidy, thinking we needed a little more Holman in Ellensburg.

Neither of us knew that was the last time we'd see her. Kassidy Holman died on July 11, 2004 of leukemia. She was ten years old. I close my eyes and see her first with her huge toothless smile, beaming and spreading her joy to anyone who would look. Then I see her peacefully playing with Barbie and Ken, creating for them a normal life she would never live. I don't know why God took Kassidy, I guess he just needed a little more Holman in heaven.

#### Caitlin Clark

Waiter, there's a fly in my soup!!!
Shalt no one listen?
Why not humans lend me their ears?
Will No One follow orders?
Chowder, stew, broth, stock
Meat, Potatoes, Meat, Carrots, Meat,
Food for the soul
WAITER!!!!
THERE'S A FLY IN MY SOUP!!



#### Amandeep K.

Food gives us life
It gives us satisfaction
Too much will give us disease
Too little with make us starve
People fight for it
And die for it
Food for the soul
Food gives us a reason
Food gives us life



What's the Deal with Valentine's Day?

Oh the day, I never wish to come Oh the day, I want to disappear The day, the day Where card, flower, jewelry, and candy shops Get zealous The day, they day I want to go away That so dreaded Valentine's Day It's commercial! No meaning or point Couples are usshy and gushy Hearts appear out of thin air This is one person, that I swear, That cupid will come no where

I will not, repeat, will not Fall head over heels For someone who thinks I can be bought No hearts or flowers for me For me, there is no Valentine Now, you make me laugh I feel like I can speak And be heard No judgment Or lies Oh, dear, am I happy? NOOOOO!!!!! This can't be! I never thought that This day would come The day, they day When I would have a Valentine.

Caitlin Clark



Bubbles blue frothing over IEM WEIDERT Fountain fluid floating Blue mist in an enchanted

Sparkle fireflies breathing serenity

Flight of bubbling blue bliss

On carefree fragile wings Butterfly blue on fingertip bliss

\*bip \*bop \*bip Crisp moonlight starry streams

Flow the bubbling universe over.

-By Isabelly Weidert

Through

**SAY WHAT? SAY WHAT? SAY WHAY? SAY WHAT? SAY WHAT? SAY WHAT?** 

A SPECK

A SINGLE LINE A DENT IN TIME A MOTION SWIFT A LOOPING DRIFT A SCUFFED-UP BALL A RAIN DROP FALL A PLUMP RIPE FRUIT **CUFFS ON A SUIT** A GAPING HOLE A SHOE'S WORN SOLE A BLINKING LIGHT A STAR AT NIGHT A DISTANT FRIEND A SENTENCE END A GNAWING ACHE A LONE SNOWFLAKE MY PATTERNED WALL A DUSTY HALL THE CLOAKED NEW MOON A NOTE'S FRESH TUNE A DOT

Bark The skin of a tree Every so rough and coarse

Every so dry and an-giving if love How necessary is bark

To be so unpleasant

To think of

Itself Instead

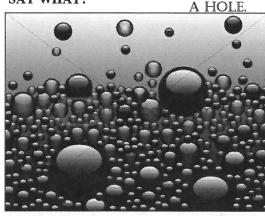
Of others

How it

Latches on

To those around

How it



The squirrels

-Caitlin Clark



Techno Po-

## etry 1

IEM Weidert: I asked one of the school computers for profound theological wisdom with which I could form a poem. This was its reply...

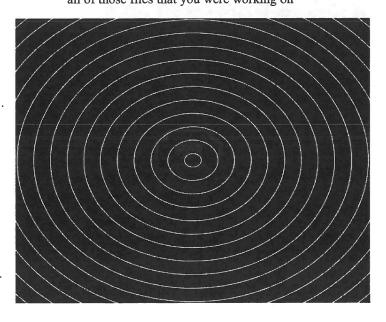
Log On
to Windows
The system could
not log you on.
Make sure your User name
and domain are correct,
then type your password again.
Letters in password must be typed using the
correct case. Applying your personal settings.
Enter the host name or

## Techno Poetry

2

IEM Weidert: I asked my personal computer for profound theological wisdom with which I could not find from the school's computer in order to form a poem. This was its reply...

Of course, because you think my life consists of sitting on your desk you think that I have nothing to do better than to tend your every whim. Well fine, it's not like I mean anything to you. I don't have feelings. WAIT! STOP RIGHT THERE! You think this is a game? NO! Just because I know you doesn't mean that you can just get right on through. I'll NOT be treated like your security guard. You TYPE your password like a GOOD girl and don't ask me questions. And DON'T you dare be an idiot-you can remember how to spell your own dog's name in the password, crybaby! What were you saying? Did I forget to load something? Oh ho ho, did I forget to upload your cute desktop the right way? Well isn't that a shame? Oh, you poor soul, wittle wubby woo-that's what you get for leaving me all night! And remember all of those files that you were working on



#### What the Frick

I wish I had an accent, But some say I do anyway. Fish legends sever corn galaxies Boxing sand hamsters One man deep Friction kissing nineteen Pika stripes 5 on 2 pumas On contemporary antiques Even calendars yell soemly to lion fish Silicone sanctified silver suns Spanks whip ice cream trees Blurting songs in Swahilian Why can't the invisible be invinsible? Honey badger don't care Do we live in the former iceburg of Ellen? Candied lollipops have a destiny involving saliva But they kind of sneeze plaid Jenny Lee

Twisting strips the Hue of Amber
In the musk outside the town
Green and yellow gems remember
Even 'til the sun goes down
Righteous spirit, creature limber

If the armies dare not travel Night the most enchanted year

Tremble in the swamps of midnight
Hide beneath the stalks of fear
Ever will you be in sight

Dare to walk or try to run
Arms of Ancient Tinted steel
Rudy flesh so ripe in sun
Know the burn of tear and peel
Night reveals the meat undone
Evening breath the last to feel
Silent beast a meal won
Silent blood to soon congeal

IEM Weidert



As strong as a falling oak,
As swiftly as a gust of wind.
The urge to break free soars through
my veins,
Filling my wandering mind with im-

Filling my wandering mind with images of freedom

Breaking free of my cold steel chains Able to walk wherever life may lead you

Across dunes or through the country-side

Over piercing peaks or ice cold rivers

My heart my only guide
Society suffocating creative minds
Telling lies to numb the sharp stinging pain

But I'm going to carve my own path through this maze I'll go against the way of the grain

Seeking the absolute high Complete, utter Bliss

Nathan Zech Freshman November 2011

## The Millennium King IEM Weidert

Out call the cry of the King

His eyes slanted like a venomous serpent's

Rage and sparks fill his mouth

As he storms the millennium halls

The frail and unfortunate trampled beneath

The iron heels of his boots

And the long purple cape

Flaps like a wing in the chill November wind

His shrieks like thunder in the mountains
And with a twirl of his ringed fingers
Justice is carried out on a chain
Sent to rot in a dungeon with his brothers.
The boy and his followers huddle in the cold

Waiting for the beast to tire Stalking in his marble spire Extinguish his immortal fire.

#### Another Urban Tradition Gone Awry IEM Weidert

Every Winter is the same While every Spring the fingers came They clawed and scratched their way through earth

To gasp the greeting wings of birth To warm their muddy fingers dry To upwards reach for sun and sky And every spring, near half-past may They'd all be carved and shaved away The tips ground to a pulpy paste Yes, fields and acres laid to waste While throbbing stems lay bloody bare Exposing beauty rich and rare For shattered bones and ruined flesh, These corpsely stalks do colors mesh To carpets lush with vibrant hue And gruesome glory residue As man himself gaze o'er the land He grins "I did this with my hand" So as the Autumn takes its way The fingers writhe and shrink away For next year's trial to hold its sway Yet this was not true Yesterday When fingers crawled up in the Spring To greet the day and all it brings They grasped the earth and reached about 'Til hands, and arms, and heads came out Then followed all the rest with ease To stretch their limbs and bathe in breeze The rain would quench their daily thirst As it, for years, had so rehearsed These nymphs would spring in sprightly hues And dance in dresses downed with dews They crowned the hills, through meadows lay, They raced through streams, where cousins play, Naked they would greet the night And all around beheld the sight Of wrestling spirits romping free With wild youth and fertility. Yet soon all laid themselves to rest To wake when Spring was at its best.

Hidden noise lost in air
A cry for help in much despair
Like a tree falling in the woods
Alone it's left
Its audience seemingly def
Defeated by the sands of time
On the pathway of an uphill
climb
Defeated by a raging wind
Slowing us as we ascend
Denying all that we Commend
Denying all that we Amend

Matthew Farris



Misty by Caitlin Clark

#### Surface of the Full Moon

What do you see when you see snow?
Powdered sugar? Shredded paper clumps?
A hypothermia quilt?
How about the surface of the moon?
Echoing stillness?
Powder that remembers every impression of your footprints?
A surface so bright it hurts your eyes?
That's one way I think of snow.

## THE PICTURES OF

Mackenzie Anfinson



a deafening silence. Not even space could be so silent. The darkness is so great I can't tell if my eyes are open. I feel uncomfortable with the intense pain in my head and chest. All of a sudden I feel nauseous and as though I'm falling at incredible speed. I felt as though I was in a jet plane falling straight down at a g-force too great to bear until I fell unconscious. When I woke up I found I was in a new place, a place that seems unearthly. I didn't know where I was. I felt weightless, as though I was in water. I opened my eyes but all I could see was a blur of blue light. A blue light as though you were in a lit pool in the middle of the night. My eyes adjusted enough for me to see the things that were around me. I could see people in lab coats no more than two feet from me. I could move but I wasn't going anywhere. I could see other people standing in front of what looked like pods of some sort. I saw people in the pods. I noticed there were people in the pods and all seemed to be badly injured. I tried to get a better look at my surroundings and found that I was in a pod like the others. I looked and felt my whole body to see if something was wrong with me. I found that there was a giant hole in my chest and I was missing an ear. I attempted to speak but found it impossible, as though I had lost my tongue. I knew it was still there, so it must have been something else. One of the people in lab coats noticed I was awake. Then everyone in lab coats went frantic. One of them pressed a funny looking green button and a mechanical arm inside the pod stuck me with a syringe and everything started going black. I was unconscious again. I woke up again. This time when I woke up I was in a room. A room that is completely bare of color. Bare of anything, a room fit for a mental patient. Once I think about it being a room for a mentally insane person, the room changes. The walls become padded, but I can hear the ocean at one wall, the rain at another and absolute nothingness at the third. The fourth had a door; whenever you looked at the door it changed shape. Rather changed era. One minute it was a normal front door house, the next it would be a metal door. Every time the door changes the room had a different sensation, a different sound, and different colored walls. The first time the door changed I could taste something sweet, but could not tell what the taste belonged to for I saw no food, or any point of origin. The door changed again, this time it gave you the feeling of euphoria. It changed once more, this time it stayed the same for what seemed to be years. The sensation was from being anything like the last time. This time it wasn't euphoria but pain. Severe pain and loneliness and the feeling anything I do is pointless. I felt as though I was losing my mind. No, I knew I was losing my mind. I could feel that I had changed from the time I first fell asleep. All of a sudden the door opened, out walked a person. I didn't see their face. They didn't speak, or even make a sound. They walked straight up to me and stabbed me in the chest with what seemed to be some sort of futuristic power chord. I felt a slight tingle from my chest. I didn't feel any pain but I started to feel light headed. I felt unconscious, and when I woke I knew everything was a dream. I get up and get dressed and find that something was new. I found I was home. I was with my dad.