**Category: Middle School** 

## WINNER: Paige Samara Poska – West Frederick Middle

## A Light, A Change, A Tunnel

A Light, a Change, a Tunnel.

What can you see, Reader?

A mountain, a cliff, a tree we climb, rooted deep within the past.

A Poet, many Poets, singing songs of Truth.

A light shining through dark halls of History.

A nation prevailing over injustice?

No, not Here, not Now. What *I* see is this:

An attack, of the Spring, plunging us into Darkness and Chaos and Discord.

So meet Darkness, who turns out the lights,

And Discord, who starts only fights,

And Chaos, who can stop Discord only by bringing more Chaos.

And meet the man whose face no one knew,

But whose name we will always remember. I can't breathe...

Another attack, in the heart of Winter, blinding us with flags and flashes and fire,

Men who are lost in their own Delusions of Grandeur,

Who think they can rewrite their own laws,

But succeed only in the matter of bringing more Chaos.

And then...a light...

A People who decide for themselves, finally, *finally*, that Justice should be pulled out of the attic Once more.

So meet Justice, who will never give up,

And Hope, who will never be lost,

And Truth, the only one who is immortal in this ever-changing World.

And so Justice will sing her warsong in the ever-fought battle against evil,

And Hope and Truth walk hand in hand...

And we meet the People who can change the World.

No, not the Leaders, or the Protectors, or even the Poets, although they do offer their helping hands.

Who I mean, Reader, is you.

Because Democracy will always prevail.

So I ask once more,

What can you see?

A light? A change?

A tunnel? The end of a tunnel?

No. not the end of a tunnel.

But a light that comes closer,

A change is that is near,

A turning point is here,

With our light, soon our change, in our tunnel.

A Light, a Change, a Tunnel.

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