

Between Roots and Sky

Violet Giles

8th Grade, Yale Jr. High

Honorable Mention

You plant a tree in your yard to fill some empty space. After you plant it, you leave; it grows by itself, nothing and no one to help it grow. It tried to get help but even when it screams at the top of its lungs in the wind nobody comes to help.

Another tree – gets planted in the forest with all the trees and sun. Your tree grows to be small, fragile, and falls down when there's a storm, breaking your window.

The tree in the forest however grows to be big, strong, and lives to be hundreds of years old gathering wisdom and stories, never once breaking anything no matter how strong the storm. People – like trees – need support to grow big and strong. Without it, even the smallest storm can break us.

