

1st Place – High School Category

Emma

Evanston

Evanston Township High School, Sophomore

the light that isn't orange

never trust the stupid boy
who climbs onto elementary school roofs with you
who slips on frosted tar with you
who slides his hand along into
yours
when you take borrowed gloves off
this boy will stare at stars with you
and create the illusion that just for a second
the suburbs are ok
tomorrow won't come
today isn't just another day
because today i pushed the boy's best friend on the swings
and shared fries with him
and today we walked to keep warm and to keep going
and i think that's why i live.
i'd hate to say i lived for the time when
the stupid boy pushed back my hair with his stupid frozen fingertips
and held me close in eternally warm arms in the light that most definitely not
is not ever
could never even be considered to be
there is no way in hell that it was
you would have to be blind to think that it was
in the light that
isn't orange.