

Honorable Mention  
Fiction Writing, Division I  
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*The Ember of Hate*  
Word Count: 416

The Ember of Hate

I am a child,  
I am a daughter,  
I am a girl,  
But I am Jewish.

Being Jewish used to be completely normal.  
My family and I were as jolly as a child with a lollipop.  
Until they came.  
The Nazis. The fire-like Nazi's

They made us wear badges  
It didn't end there;  
We were banned from all of our favorite places.  
Now they took our jobs.  
This is where the downfall began for my family.  
Soon came even more laws against us;  
It felt as we were powerless,  
As if we were bugs waiting to be killed.  
Not by regular people, but Nazis.

The Nazis  
They start out as an ember,  
A spark of anger and hate.  
As the fire is fed,

The ember grows.

And that wasn't all.

They came to our houses,

They broke our windows,

They stole everything of worth,

We were left with nothing.

The Nazis, their power is growing,

The fire is growing,

Their fire of anger and hatred.

Towards people who have never done anything wrong.

My brother was taken away to a camp,

Leaving my parents and I to hide.

We now live in a Ghetto.

I now sit on the floor and think to myself, why?

Why did they do this to us?

We have never done anything wrong,

Never did anything to them

And now everyone is against us.

If something happened,

Why is no one telling me ?

Why don't I know yet?

Some say I'm too young to know,  
But I have a feeling they don't know.

Do the Nazis even know?

The Nazis have no care left in them.

Their anger is a bonfire,  
Attacking everything in its reach,  
Collecting more until it burns everything,  
Attacking us Jews.

All day I hear screams,  
Screams of innocent people,  
Of innocent children.  
None of us deserve to be treated this way.  
What could even spark Hitler to want this?  
How did people agree?  
Why do they agree?

They are taking our future;  
We are left with nothing but a pile of ashes.  
I have been planning my future just to see those plans collapse.  
I have always wanted to go to college,  
To earn a degree someday,  
To be a successful woman,  
But I'm Jewish.

I've always wanted to public speak,

But I'm Jewish.

I want to help those in need,

But I'm Jewish.

There is no way to hide it

And I won't hide it.

I won't let this fire burn me.

I am Jewish.

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