

Honorable Mention

Division I – Writing

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Where Are They Now?

Hudson Middle School

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Word Count 692

Where Are They Now?

Listen to me now,
For there's something you must hear,
A story so important,
One that I hold dear.

I am a living survivor
Of the Holocaust
Here to tell my story,
Make sure it isn't lost.

There are many people out there,
Who'd say I'm ludicrous,
But you had better believe me,
When I tell you this,

I lost both of my parents,
My uncle and my aunt,
My 2 older sisters
And my best friends.

All by the same man,
And his forces at will,
Only one thing to do,
Get rid of Jews, kill.

And so he did,
I tell you, he did.
And you better believe it,
That's why everyone hid.

But there are still some out there,
Some who don't believe,
Say it never happened,
In denial, it would seem.

So if that's true,
Then where are they now?
If that's true,
How'd they die then? How?

They rounded us up,
Put us in camps,
Gave us little food,
Our beds were all damp.

The beds were so firm,
Food bowls always dry,
Water portions, so small,
Then again, so was I.

Deaths around every corner,
No one could dry their eyes,
Hoping days would get warmer,
Wishing for blue skies.

But there are still some out there,
Some who don't believe,
Say it never happened,
In denial, it would seem.

So if that's true,
Then where are they now?
If that's true,
How'd they die then? How?

The conditions just got worse,
And then so did they,
What else could I do,
All I did was pray.

I'd pray all day,
And pray all night,
And pray that the Germans would make it right.

Put an end to this madness,
Let us go, apologize,

Do they know what they're doing?

Do they open their eyes?

Look at the damage,

They split the world in two,

They made it all happen,

But what could we do?

We had no say,

We were treated like scum,

No one had hope,

What were we to become?

The guns poised and ready,

Their barrels glistened,

We had to obey orders,

We had to listen.

Every move, monitored,

It was either life or death,

I was always hoping

For just one more breath

But there are still some out there,

Some who don't believe,

Say it never happened,

In denial, it would seem.

So if that's true,

Then where are they now?

If that's true,

How'd they die then? How?

With no extra cloths,

Just those dirty striped suits,

No clean water for us,

Unimaginable abuse.

Disease didn't discriminate,

It didn't decide,

Anyone was a target,

We were dropping like flies.

Families separated by force,

All hope withdrawn,

We clung to what was left,

Barely making it along.

I was one of the many,

transferred camp to camp,

Dachau to Auschwitz,

The trains dark and cramped.

Unlike most others,
I held fast to my dreams,
I wanted my family,
Freedom by any means.

But there are still some out there,
Some who don't believe,
Say it never happened,
In denial, it would seem.

So if that's true,
Then where are they now?
If that's true,
How'd they die then? How?

They could strip me of family,
They could strip me of clothes,
They could strip me of freedom,
My will to survive only grows.

I'll never forget
the sounds of that day
The hum of the tanks
As they took us away.

Finally free,
A survivor at last.
But what about the other
Six million who passed?

You can say what you want,
You can choose not to listen,
You can ignore the proof,
But I still have a mission.

We know that it happened,
We know it was true,
We know they aren't rumors,
And you know this too.

So please heed my words,
Don't pretend it didn't happen,
Don't forget my story,
Don't forget their actions.

Because if it didn't happen,
If there was no Holocaust,
Where'd all those people go?
Where are those lives that were lost?

So if there was no Holocaust

Then where's my family now?

All the people who died,

How'd they die then? How?

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