

## AUGUST WINNER ADDYSON DELPIER

Addyson enjoys spending her time reading and writing. She is sixteen years old and a senior in high school. She is homeschooled and her favorite subjects are English, creative writing, and psychology.

## THE GIRL WITH THE DOG BY ADDYSON DELPIER

The girl with the green eyes will turn seventeen in sixteen days.

Fear clamped down on her,

Like the relentless jaw of a wild dog, squeezing her.

The dog was unyielding and always has been.

He had followed her around her whole life, nipping at her heels.

A reminder that time will undoubtedly continue to pass.

The girl with the green eyes could remember the dog barking at her When she stared into the dirty bathroom mirror for too long.

A copious reminder that time will continue to tick.

The world will continue to spin,

And the harrowing vision of growing older

Was almost as deafening as the dog barking beside her.

The girl with the green eyes will turn seventeen in sixteen days.

The dog barked persistently to such a degree that the girl could no longer sleep.

With the girl's birthday fast approaching, the dog continued to bite her.

And as the girl stared at herself in the dirty bathroom mirror on her birthday,

Bite marks oozing blood everywhere that meets the eye.

The girl with the green eyes looked above her at the clock.

She watched the seconds tick by

And she became more despondent.

The girl looked at the dog beside her, unable to speak.

She hoped her eyes conveyed an adequate goodbye to the vicious being behind her

As she shut the door, leaving him behind.

Time continued to tick and seconds continued to pass

However, the girl would no longer allow the dog's deafening bark to taint her mind.

The girl with the green eyes would cover her ears and live the rest of her ephemeral life.