

NICHOLAS MARTINEZ

JUNIOR - 2nd Place

Alumni Poetry Contest - 2017

JR - 1

"Black Solstice"

JR-1

As I stepped out of the comfortable warmth of my log cabin, the frosty, fierce winter winds pierced through my thick jacket as if it were paper thin.

My fingers were overcome with numbness, making seemingly simple simple tasks far more difficult.

The low sky, black as tar, bathed the leaf barren forest in a bitter, thick, darkness.

My eyes were wide open, yet I could not see the path before me.

I was not prepared for the harshness, the darkness, the cold dead winter.

I loved and I lost.

The chill in the air hardened my heart.

The light within my soul barely flickered.

I fought the good fight, but it was for nought.

The sun was gone, my love was gone.

I am forever lost in these dark days.