

First Place Winner

Grey Rain
By: Kellan Smith

Grey rain

Clung

Curving, sliding

Down

The silent window pane.

We watched

Quiet

And ate grilled cheese

Your elbow rested on my knee.

You rose

(looking for cookies)

and I couldn't help but see

you brought back

one for you

and two for me.

Second Place Winner

Black Snow

By: AnnaMaria Salas

Black Snow

She stands
ankle deep in snow
bundled in oversized coveralls
stained with grease
streaks of black blemish her face

He struggles to zip her up
fingers fumbling
nowhere near nimble

He turns to her
and smooths the hair from her forehead
stirring her scent
flowers and motor oil

She probes his expression
for a hint of disgust

But he sees past the hair
in disarray
chapped lips
frostbitten cheeks

All he sees
is his future

Third Place Winner

What I Didn't Mean to Say

By: Jake Rapp

What I Didn't Mean to Say

I don't hate you.

I don't despise you.

I don't think you're ugly.

I don't think you're horrible.

Anger unleashes a side of me I hate.

I wish I could go and take back everything I said.

You aren't my enemy.

You aren't evil.

You aren't insane.

You aren't annoying.

I didn't know what I had until it was gone.

All I needed to say was,

I'm sorry.