

Honorable Mention Senior Poetry
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Notified

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My phone says that someone's posted
I wonder, "Who, now, is being roasted?"

Wait...is it about me?

And no one stood up for my integrity?

Such malice and hate through such a small screen
Yes, it's anonymous, but it's still not ok to be mean.

The internet, a wild terrain
No authority, no one to reign.

Statements accepted as truth just because they're in someone's feed.
But, online, truth is not found in all things posted to read.

For people who feel hurt and weak,
This is the platform which they seek.

A place with no consequences, no rules
Gives them the power to act like fools.

Lashing out at others to feel better inside,
And, always, it's behind a screen that they hide.
Feeling better for one moment isn't helping anyone at all,
Especially if it's at the expense of someone else's fall.

Posts, tweets, comments, likes,
They can hurt people, even start fights.

To simply sit back and witness something unjust,
Isn't okay and will not help to earn any trust.

"This isn't my place, it's not about me,"
Don't just turn away and pretend not to see.

This indifference, it has always been around,
When Jews were killed and no one dared to make a sound.

It seems simple to look back and talk about how it was so wrong,
But, if this is true, how did it succeed and go on for so long?

It was this same feeling that occurs today,
"I only care if it is directly in my way."

This can't continue, actions must be taken.

The memory of those lost must not be forsaken.

Be strong, stand up for things that aren't right,

Or else we may find, again, broken glass overnight.

A simple act, such as standing up for someone online or in person.

This needs to be done so the situation does not worsen.

Everyone is given a voice,

But how you use it is your choice.

Everyone has the power to make a difference, to bring change.

Even if, for a moment, it is thought to be strange.

To see something wrong and to choose not to act

Is to accept hate as a constant, an unchangeable fact.

The injustice, the hate, it's not anything new,

"Never Again" and this starts with you.

Bibliography

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