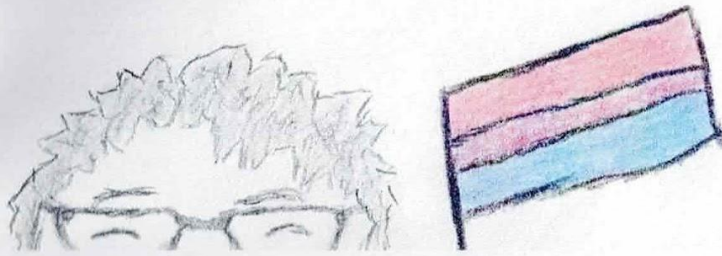


“Fluffy Hair”

Nobel J. Harte



A new girl walks in
Fluffy hair, contagious smile
Woa. My face lights up.
She takes a seat foremost me.
Should I talk to her? I'm scared.

"I like him a lot,"
She adores a youth group guy.
Oh, well. 'Guess she's straight.
I just want to be good friends.
Very, very close best friends.

We don't know her well,
But she points her phone at us.
I hold you so tight.
I never want to let go.
"What a cute photo," she says.

But you fall for him,
A boy passionate for trains.
He's perfect for you,
But your parents don't approve.
They take you away from us.

He and I are sad.
We miss your contagious smile.
We just can't grasp why
We cannot see you again.
We wish you know we love you.

Your hair, soft as silk.
Your smile conjures the cosmos.
You are radiance.
Your intoxicating laugh
Sets me drunk in mere seconds.

Then, I see a chance
To see you again, to bask
In adorable
Beauty only you possess.
I approach the bakery.

Twenty-five minutes,
I waited for you to show.
Twenty-five minutes.
My heart sinks down in my chest.
No text, no call, no nothing.

“Back to school shopping,”
Your dad calls through his work phone.
“She’s out with her mom.
So sorry she can’t hang out.”
I depart with tearful eyes.

Sure, I’ve been stood up
Before I ever met you
But this time, it hurts.
No clue why, but I suppose
I just like being your friend.

If you told me then
It would take five dreadful years
To confess my love,
I would've fought much sooner
To feel what wasn't allowed.

You were not my first,
And you're not my very last,
But you were my world.
Stored forever in my heart
Are fond memories of you.

So onward, dear friend,
Be who you couldn't be then:
Authentic and gay,
True rebellious spirit,
Existing so you can thrive.



Thank you for supporting my art!
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