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Best Midwestern High School Writing: A Celebration and Recognition of Outstanding Prose

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"Abnormalities"

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Caledonia High School

Grade: 9-10 Genre: Creative Honorable Mention

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Too Small

Shuffling feet and running water Goosebumps from cold Under water warmer than a lightning strike Inability to be anything less than ice Ribs poking out like grass reaching towards a summer sun The mirror's reflection larger than life And the one reflected hating what is seen

It's Just Late

An alarm clock lying unneeded by a bed Waking several hours before the sun. Unable to follow it to bed Bags under eves. Skillfully covered

Flutter

Heartbeat beating too fast, A bomb counting down to massive destruction Thoughts racing past the speed of light Breath caught in a cage made of ribs Shaking hands Jittery legs And stuttering, incoherent speech

Pink Triangles

The boy down the street with the nice smile And ocean eyes The parents whose brows knit when you walk by Because your pants are too tight The kids at school Screaming words your parents never taught you Because girls are nice, but you'd rather have boys

Wrong Parts

A constant sense of not belonging Like the one you get when your dream was just that Dresses where there should be jeans Short hair instead of braids and fancy updos Broken ribs better than a broken spirit

Lace Made by Red Ribbons

Something old and rusty Something shiny new A piece of twine, and shoelace too A chamber full, but empty soon