



# THE MERCURY

THE STUDENT ART & LITERARY MAGAZINE OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

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Year 2019

Article 22

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5-22-2019

## Flower Girl

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Class of 2019

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Campo, Rebecca P. (2019) "Flower Girl," *The Mercury*: Year 2019, Article 22.

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## Flower Girl

### **Author Bio**

Rebecca is an English major with a writing concentration on the Education Certification track. She will graduate in May of 2019.

# Flower Girl

REBECCA CAMPO

She's grinning from ear to ear,  
enthusiasm shinning from her face,  
like the only lamp in a room.  
Her happiness is forever preserved  
in a photo  
not sharp enough  
to capture any other emotions.  
The purple cupcake of a dress  
bellows out around her tiny waist,  
lace woven around the garment  
like string encircling  
the contents of a package,  
the bow in the back  
holding her neatly in this shape,  
the trademark  
of a Flower Girl.  
This was the girl that  
a year later  
I would stumble into on the kindergarten playground  
and recognize from Girl Scouts.  
This was the girl who,  
for 15 years of my life  
and still counting,  
would be one of my closest friends.  
This was the girl who  
would keep that purple cage  
locked in the back of her closet  
except to show me  
what an atrocity it was.  
This was the girl who  
hated being forced into any dress  
for school picture days  
or dances  
or weddings.  
This was the girl who

bought an American Girl Doll  
because the rest of us had one  
but kept it in her closet when we weren't there.  
This was the girl who  
never really was a girl at all  
but a boy tied into the shape of a girl  
by purple lace  
and a held in place  
by a tight bow  
right over his mouth.