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My Great Dream

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Author Bio

Hannah! Evans is a writer, a tutor, and a Gettysburg College Junior from Fredericksburg, Virginia. She's fascinated by the sway that words can hold, and by the magic in the extraordinary and ordinary alike. Hannah! has been signing her name with an exclamation point whenever she can since she was in first grade. She believes firmly in the small things, little intermittent acts of joy, wherever they may be found. She can be found at @hannahexclamation on instagram and @hannahex on twitch.

My Great Dream

HANNAH! EVANS

I can't wait to be read in tenth grade English class--
To hear the words they'll say to describe this, me,
The meaning they'll get out of this, me.

I can't wait to be read out loud
In the wrong inflection, with trips and snorts
And the looks and stares that haunt a sophomore lit class.

I can't wait to confront the kid who tore me to shreds,
Threw me on the ground, and called me a liar,
To be stuck in their mind, though they still claim to hate me years later.

I can't wait to be disagreed on,
For the teacher to teach it wrong, tragedy,
And for students to stage a glorious revolution, if only in their minds.

I can't wait to be ignored, unbothered
By the genius high schoolers studying for the math test next period,
Who don't yet know what to care about, or how.

I can't wait to be indoctrinated
Into the halls of "I didn't like it" and "I never read it",
Occupying conversations in the halls outside the classroom
nonetheless.

I can't wait to be real. Alive. Made flesh
In the form of messily photocopied sheets of paper
That mostly--but don't entirely--end up in the recycling bin.