Dry Wood

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**Author Bio**
Gregory Scheiber is a sophomore English major with a Writing Concentration and a Secondary Education minor. He has been published before in the pages of not only his high school literary magazine, "Kaleidoscope," but also in the brand new "Rat Tail Detail" magazine. Greg is actively involved in the theatre, building sets and doing tech crews on numerous shows as well as acting, directing, and playwriting and attending the campus's Playwright's Circle and the Poetry Circle, the latter of which he founded alongside peers Emily Francisco and Steve Krzyzanowski. When he is not doing oodles of homework, Greg likes to play video games, spend time getting lost on his bike, swapping poems with Mike Rebeschi, or just plain goofing off.

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DRY WOOD

GREGORY SCHEIBER

Written at the park off of Carlen Drive on 7/28/10

We have minds like dead tree branches
Dry, brittle, and cracked.
Lichen and moss grow,
Devouring nutrients little by little
Until its bony carcass is all that’s left to start fires.

The limbs rub together
Heating loins, shooting sparks off into the night,
Hoping they will catch and burn in the brown grass,
Bright as day in an unquenchable inferno.

The blaze will spread to our trees,
Burning down generations only to feed new ones through decaying cannibalism.
All that remains will be ash in the mud,
But a few will survive the firestorm.
Charred, blackened, but with new determination and hope,
Clinging to life through their untouched roots.

As the mass falls,
Only the ones who dug in deep enough will be left to brave the new path
Which they’ll forge,
Carving their own swath in ancientness.
Only to be remembered while they burn.