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I Hide My Skin For Society's Purpose

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Notes:

Alexis Hogsten won the first place in the Humanities: Creative category.

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I Hide My Skin For Society's Purpose

Pepper spray

hangs beside my covered

body, covered, covered,

so boys won't want me.

Society always says to me: Girl,

your skin is a spark. Boys always

have kindling ready. Hide it,

hide, hide, hide.

If I don't, they will ask:

did you keep your spark

covered?

did you keep your skin

hidden?

How many of us kept silent afraid of their questions?