

# 2016 MCC Creative Writing Contest

## Poetry Category

**First Place:** “What is Yet to Come” by Jessica Tribbett

Cold and Dark

Empty in my heart

Like a cave made of stone

Wet and damp

Quivering and weak

Like a raindrop hanging off a leaf

No light will shine

No morning come

Just steps behind the rising sun

When will I stop and see

If I stop moving the sun will come to me

Light loop around the turning earth and rest its warmth on me

Steps forward I still take

Afraid of staying in one place

Trying to escape all that is behind me

Tired I rest on a rock  
Wait for the noise to stop  
Sit there and see the last sliver of light disappear ahead  
  
Clothed in darkness waiting for morning to come  
What if I never again see that sun  
Because I don't know what is yet to come

**JUDGE'S COMMENTS:**

Though the poem does employ some phrases that aren't terribly original, the writer makes up for it by also including some stronger, more unique imagery ("Quivering and weak/Like a raindrop hanging off a leaf," "Light loop around the turning earth"). The length of the poem is just enough to complete the journey while leaving the reader with something to contemplate.

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*Kyleigh Ritter is a 2009 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in creative writing and was the recipient of the Jim Cash Creative Writing Award. She currently works as a professional writing consultant in the MCC Writing Center.*