

## **In Between**

When we were 12  
We just wanted to be understood  
We had so many feelings and nowhere to put them  
We just wanted to be seen

For our flairs and eccentricities both  
What an idea it was, that someone could care about us and how we were doing  
Who didn't raise us or grow up next door

Sometimes we took love from the wrong places  
A popularity contest, cliques on the dance floor  
Sometimes we took advice from the wrong people  
The bullies, the Internet strangers, the kid in our class who teased about our patterned erasers,  
our silly little stories, our dresses and glitter

We internalized so much, the good and the bad  
We learned how to shine and we learned how to hide  
Lessons learned meant to be unlearned  
Changed for a later time, when you're old enough to see  
That "it was never about who loved or hated me,  
but who loved or hated them,  
And who we choose to be."

When we were 12  
We wanted to be special  
And the world found ways to tell us no  
But it also showed us how to grow

The duality of life is good and evil  
Especially in middle school  
Who you are and where you'll go  
Just depends on when you know  
That you are everything to someone  
And you will be again, over and over

But the most important special someone  
Is the one who looks back in the mirror  
Looks back and smiles on your past  
Who looks to the future  
And never stops trying

