
Honorable Mention, Poetry, Grades 10-12

***“sparkling grapes: spring, adulthood
and remembering,” Nora Cornell***

i swirl the bubbles in my delicate glass.
it feels familiar already, and i want to
let myself become more like this motion —
spring, after all, is delicate and swooping,
rarely invasive, and bringing a sort of precocious smile.
i sit with my neck and chin perched
as lightly as i can manage above my chest,
fold my hands like fallen flowers in my lap,
and it takes until *ma nishtana* to remember —
spring is also a renewing cycle of chaos,
of rainstorms and sneezes and muddy toes,
and that my growth can move this way, too.

Nora Cornell is in 10th grade at The Blake School. When not writing poems, Nora is a theater kid with a penchant for storytelling. She loves learning all sorts of things and cuddling with her two cats.