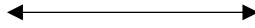


*****POETRY – 6TH GRADE*****



2nd Place

Giraffe

Anonymous

Iron Horse Middle School, San Ramon
Teacher: Celeste Granger

In the dying embers of the sun,
A silhouette blends with the trees.
Our safari car stops.
The creature takes a step,
The shadow of its long legs is all we can see.
Golden amber light behind it
Makes it just an outline,
A stencil.
We watch,
Awed,
As a slender, dark, neck emerges,
And the creature steps out of the shadowy trees.
A giraffe.
The shadow glides forward,
Undisturbed by the car.
Calm, it stops at the other side of the road,
Stretching its neck to the leaves.
We're the only ones seeing this.
Then, quick as it came,
The giraffe's silhouette fades into the
Dark trees,
And the car engine starts again,
As we move on.
Nobody else saw it.
It is our secret alone.
Our treasure
To cherish.