

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Meghan Pohlmann, Age 14**  
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**Enclosure**

I stand in a gathering of monstrosity  
Gazing through the silver cage to  
Get a glimpse of the world beyond

The life that could be ours to live

Visitors come to see if the tales are true  
To confirm their suspicions on what  
Terrible beasts we are

Some of the grouping scurries off with  
Their tails between their legs in fear  
Of the new company

The thought of prancing over and  
Greeting them crosses my mind, yet  
It's too late as the spectators turn away  
From our cage and leave

Mocking us  
Claiming how pathetic and unworthy we are  
I glance down at my soiled clothing and  
My broken family and almost agree