



Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews 2019 Essay and Creative Arts Competition

Poetry Award

Samuel Hahn, A.W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts (grade 11)

The Woman at the Door

At a time of despair and disarray
I was interrupted by a knocking sound
A colorfully clothed character waits at the door
She comes in and sits down.

She asks what is wrong and she grabs my hands
The summer in her palms melting the winter in mine
As she speaks, her words bandage my emotions
“Be still, my child and look into my eyes.

When you were four, learning to ride a bike
After your father removed the stabilizing wheels
Steady hands kept you from falling over
I was there, keeping you sturdy like steel

When high school came, and your family moved
Alone at your lunch table
Someone pushed you towards the crowd
It was I who made you able

And in that sweaty summer heat
When sun’s turned in for the night
I was the one who forced you unto your knees
And asked her to be your wife.”

“Ma’am,” I replied, “I’m not sure I understand
How is it you’ve been with me so long.”
She laughs, confusing me to no ends
“My son, I help all people to be strong.”

“I’m always with you, if you know how to look,
You must have me when you are weak
My name is Hope, I’m inside of you
I’m the courage of which you seek