

Beauty is Blinding

An ekphrastic poem inspired by the woodblock print, *The Amida Falls in the Far Reaches of the Kisokaidō Road* by *Katsushika Hokusai*

Maya Larson

NATHAN HALE HIGH SCHOOL | 9TH GRADE

Beauty is
blinding.

It's the first
thing people see.

It's the first
thing the people
sitting by the
waterfall saw.

Drawn in by the
crystal blue water,
sparkling in the sunlight.

The lush hill
framing the falls
as yellow as corn.

The emerald green
of the trees
scattered around
only enhancing the clear
and pure blue.

By gazing into
the gorgeousness,
the three campers have
sealed their fate.

Refusing to see
the figure right in front
of their faces.

Danger beneath

f
a
l
l
i
n
g
water
waiting to strike.

Distracting them
with a cold mist
and the feel
of a light breeze.

Distracting them
with the thrill
of complete, utter
freedom.

Beauty is
blinding.

It's the last thing
people see.

