



# Trees

QES MCCORD

EVERGEEN HIGH SCHOOL | 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

See  
the thing about trees is they tell  
fake stories. They make you believe  
that their change is vibrant and bold.  
They whisper in your ears, tell tall tales  
of their many leaves. But what they don't tell you –  
is how the fall is actually a metaphor,  
for the tree that fell...  
that no one heard –  
therefore, it didn't happen.  
How the orange and red that paint  
their leaves is just a testimony for the hatred  
they harbor for the ground and how –  
when the fall is done,  
and they're bare and exposed,  
they sit in embarrassment of the lies  
they whispered in your ears.



This broadside was created in celebration of Seattle Arts & Lectures' Writers in the Schools (WITS) program's Year End Reading. It was written at Evergreen High School during the 2022-23 school year with WITS Writer-in-Residence, Brian Dang.