Lauren Rogers

Age: 13, Grade: 8

School Name: Altamont School, Birmingham, AL

Educator: Dan Carsen

Category: Poetry

Shoes

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I am tired.

I am done.

I'm done with 8th grade.

My friend Stella,

I don't even have words.

Emma.

she's worse.

And Caitlin,

well you can't even imagine.

I can't forget about Caileigh,

that makes her pretty bad.

Now Parker on the other hand,

she is the queen,

the most popular girl in school,

but only if you knew.

Frances,

you know that shy girl who never talks,

the one who doesn't know any TikTok dances,

well, she talks to me.

So, then there's me,

I'm that girl who everyone comes to when they have problems,

the one who attracts other people's drama like a magnet,

a magnet that never stops attracting.

Most people would like to play my role,

and if I were able to trade,

I would do that in an instant.

With everybody's problems piling up on you,

there is no place to go for yourself.

Everyone assumes that since you are that girl,

you have no problems of your own.

Everyone assumes that they are the only ones.

But all it takes is a step in another pair of shoes.