

Diplomacy

Austria, England, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Turkey –
Siblings squabbling over thirty-four supply centers,
Driven by a thirst for resources – for glory – for power, they rip apart the land –
Destruction descends, annihilation ascends, peace lies in peril,
We relive the horrors – to an ephemeral degree – with only the strategic, fantastic game in mind,
And I ask myself,
“How is this Diplomacy?”
And yet . . .
Players from across the globe unite – through mail, through media, in person –
Forging friendships that no ocean could divide for decades,
A European war becomes a tool for promoting openness, cooperation, actual diplomacy –
It’s the game that spawned a thousand great world leaders –
Kissinger, Kennedy, Portillo, Asimov, Bradbury, Cronkite –
Aspirations for the youth of today,
All born from Diplomacy.

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2018 Young Artists and Authors Showcase
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