

I'M ANGRY, AREN'T YOU?

ZOE FARRIS



BREAKING NEWS!

Our burning of fossil fuels is breaking the planet

Burning it down

Turn off the TV.

The AC vent steadily rattles on

The high today is above 100

The air is thick and heavy

Lethargy sets in

The sun burns brighter

Every day.

Every year

The hottest on record

Drive to school

The car is a sauna

The metal of the belt buckle burns my fingertips

Sweat beads form on my upper lip

Stop to get gas

The pump gurgles to life

The fumes fill my lungs

Rubber turns to goo on the unforgiving pavement

Biology: a slideshow presentation

A changing climate drives species toward the poles

Icebergs melt, polar bears starve

to death

Spanish: an article to discuss

Cada verano las olas de calor en Europa son más asfixiantes

Los récords históricos de temperatura se rompen

miles se sofocan

Lunch: meatloaf

Served on styrofoam trays

Grab a plastic water bottle from the vending machine

Eating outside, the sun's rays rake across my skin

Litter scattered around the schoolyard like confetti

Gym: canceled

The temperature is too great, they say

Exercising in such high temperatures

Increases health risks exponentially

they say

History: a test

Question 1.) What are the main consequences of the Industrial Revolution?

And how do they expect me to respond

with brute Honesty?

To write that the Industrial Revolution was when it all began

to end?

That it is when they chose

profit

over people

Their greed that fuels our demise

But did they stop and think
about us?

Those who came before
And those who will come after

And I am Angry

So Angry.

aren't you?

That we choke on the polluted air
That their selfishness creates

When we call for change

When we tell them that there is
no
more
time

Half truths

Willful ignorance

And fingers crossed behind backs

Make us throw up our hands

day in

and day out

But I am Angry

So Angry.

The most Angry of all

That I am the one

Who benefits from their greed

that I

too

have caused this

e x i s t e n t i a l

c r i s i s

aren't you?