

There's a Dumpster *Fire* U_p the Hill₁

By Megan Butler

WHY I LIKE IT: *Poetry Editor HEZEKIAH writes... I'm glad Megan stumbled across us. 'There's a Dumpster Fire Up the Hill' "I see it every day. / I see it when I go to school. / I see it when I play." ...Have you ever been moved by something you couldn't quite put your finger on? Like when your mother first told you 'not to touch the stove!' Why did she sit me on the counter next to it? ...when I could even reach the handle of the oven door from the floor? In the same way, there is something unknowing about Ms. Butler's poem, but, "Don't be scared or rude. / The dumpster fires up your hills / Are also people too." To this day, I still put my hand on the element to see if it's heating up ...good thing I don't have gas.*

There's a Dumpster Fire Up the Hill

There's a dumpster fire up the hill.

I see it every day.

I see it when I go to school.

I see it when I play.

There's a dumpster fire up the hill.

It's always burning bright.

It's really quite intelligent

And shines such joy and light.

There's a dumpster fire up the hill.

It's burning, rain or snow.

No matter what the weather is,

The fire burns and glows.

There's a dumpster fire up the hill.

It's always been so friendly.

It waves goodbye when you walk by.

Its home is never empty.

Whenever you see the dumpster fire,

Don't be scared or rude.

The dumpster fires up your hills

Are also people too.

THE POET SPEAKS: *There's a Dumpster Fire Up the Hill was inspired by the works of Mary Shelley and a particularly stressful night at work. I was inspired early on by Emily Dickinson and her creative approaches to poetry form. While passed over during her lifetime, she later came to be celebrated for her new stylings and looser forms of writing. I've always been fond of free verse and rhyming since I think it allows the writing to flow without the hindrance of sticking to form. Lately, I particularly enjoy the writings of Amanda Lovelace. Poetry has been especially important to me since a young age since it allowed me an outlet to express myself in a form I felt was beautiful and powerful. When I am incapable of finding the words myself, I know I can trust other poets to find the words for me, describing feelings and thoughts in ways I don't think I properly could.*

AUTHOR BIO: Megan Butler is currently a student at Troy University by day and machine operator at RWC by night. She is majoring in English and minoring in HR Management and one day hopes to author fiction and poetry. She has been writing poems since she was in the sixth grade and has always had a love for books. In addition to reading and writing, she also enjoys spending time in nature, listening to rock music, and playing with her dog Cooper.