

2nd Place (Schools Y7&8, 2022): Vanessa Richards, Raurimu Avenue School, Hide and Seek

In a cold, dark, empty shed there hid a girl. This girl was all alone but this was normal for her. This sense of darkness, the sound of demons in her head she was used to it. She had lost sense of the feeling of love. But this girl hadn't always been this way. She was once a happy, bubbly, joyful little girl, until one day it was lost.

Hide and seek. That was the game she would play day after day with her neighbourhood friends and family. It was her favourite game in the whole wide world. One day she was playing in the fields with her friends. The little girl was looking for a hiding place. While her friend was counting down from thirty, she ran the opposite direction as fast as she could until everyone was out of sight. When she turned around she found a shed. She thought it was perfect. No one would find her there. When the thirty-second countdown ended, she was ready.

A few minutes passed and the young girl was excited and anxious. So many thoughts were going through her head, and her heart was beating like crazy. Five minutes passed and she had calmed down. She peeked through the cracks of the shed door. She couldn't see or hear anybody around. She sat down in the corner of the shed and continued waiting. As time went by, she became afraid.

In a cold, dark, empty shed there hid a girl. This girl was all alone and she knew the fact. But as she cried tears of sadness, the door opened.

'There you are!' the young girl's father exclaimed.

As the two finally embraced, the little girl knew she wasn't alone and she never would be.