

We Did This
by HS Sophomore Jace

What will we tell our children
when they grow up in a world with no tigers?
What will we tell them when they ask
where all the polar bears went?
Will we stand there
and put a condescending look on our face
and say
“They went away
They left in hope of greener pastures
They left for big business
They left for INDUSTRY.”
Will we tell them a half-truth, bent and twisted
with lies we are fed to continue to make money?
Or will we be mournful?
Heads bent with the shame of what we’ve done.
Will we ever be able to look our children in the eyes?
Or will we only ever see what we’ve done reflected in them
Blue-eyed toddlers reflect the ice caps, now no more.
Brown-eyed youngsters send us back to a time when
the Earth was fresh and not covered in concrete
and artificials.
Green eyes—oh, the grass, the plants we’ve
killed off and left behind!
How will you be able to look your own
children in the eyes without thinking,
“We did this.”