

The light above the stairway

By Kai Coleman

I never thought I'd relate
To a lightbulb I'd pass everyday
On my way to 1st period
Or On my way to 5th
I'd always check it
To see if it's lit

Sometimes it flickered
With only a flash
Like it was still trying
To just make its life last
I watched as it tried
And tried again
Knowing what it felt like
To flicker
And try to become bright
again

Sometimes it was out
And those days felt the worst
It was one of those days
When it just felt like it was cursed
And as much as I would hate
To see it go out
I knew
What that was like for them
To be burned out by doubt

I saw it out sometimes
For only half the day
Trying to pick up the broken pieces
And try to work
For the rest of the way
And I knew it was hard
Even though it cried
to try again

Even when they knew
How dim they had just been

I never thought I'd relate
To a lightbulb
I'd pass everyday
But as it flickered
Or went out
I knew that one day
Just like me
We wouldn't feel so gray
And maybe one day
We'd shine through the hallways