

Let's Talk...

By Tessa and Milla Brizhik

It was Saturday night
We were all pretty tired
Katie dimmed the room light
And we all sat down by the fire.

“Have you thought of your future?”
Looking at the blaze, I said outloud,
“Yes, I totally have,” answered Claire
Without a shadow of a doubt.

“As you know, my whole family
Is doctors, and I think that's pretty cool.”
Once Claire said that, Caeley asked teasingly,
“So being a doctor is your family's rule?”

“Well, to be honest here, I never thought
That there was a choice on who to be.
My parents talk about curing people all the time,
And I always thought this was the place for me.”

“All my life I've learned facts and heard
Theories on human origins and Earth,
I don't understand, Caeley, how you believe
That a 'god' could give the world birth.”

Caeley stood up and addressed us all,
“It's God with a capital G, if you please.
My life has always had a Sunday at Church
With my family, which made me feel at ease.”

Caeley continued, “Life is a gift from God
And the world's order is very neat.
But everyone has a purpose and rules to follow;
To love their country, parents; and not to lie or cheat.”

Brianna looked down and muttered,
“How can that be, a 'god' greater than us?
My dad has told me that
I determine my life like the rest of us.”

“If God was real, why aren't my parents together?
Every holiday, I jump from one table to the next,
From Dad's third girlfriend's to Mom's new “artistic” hubby.
My only joy that pushes me along is my poodle Rex.”

“All I can ever think about, is going to college
There I can finally have a place,
Hopefully hang with you guys,
And learn at my own pace.”

As Katie grabbed her coat, she said,
“I have to go, we are wasting time
I should have been in bed by now
For an early start at 5 a.m. to feed the cows for a dime.”

She looked at us and sighed,
“College with you guys,
would be a dream come true
but if I left, what would I look like in my dad’s eyes?”

Caeley said when the door shut, “I feel bad for her
Living and working alone on the farm.
Oh, I heard that her father has a gun,
To protect from animals that could do harm.”

Claire asked, perplexed, “A gun in the house?
But why, can’t guns harm or kill?!”
“Didn’t you hear me, it’s for protection, silly!
Animals could harm you, if they will.”

Caeley continued, “You live in the city,
With alarms around your place.
Katie’s family is all alone on the farm,
How else would you guard yourself in her case?”

Claire was thinking, “Oh, I see
My dad wants a gun for defending,
But instead of animals attacking,
Without a gun, newcomers could bring our ending.”

“My dad says immigrants are outrageous,
Thinking America is free territory.
The families that go all the way back to 1776,
Believe that they deserve more glory.”

Surprised, Brianna responded
“Though my mom wasn’t born here
She should be treated the same
Her hard work and love for this country are clear.”

“I have to say something, Brianna,”
Claire exclaimed “I think we agree!”
“People have to work hard to get what they desire,
And only those who work hard, can get what they need.”

I come in, "I've listened to you argue for awhile,
And if we want our friendship to continue,
Although we were raised with our parents' views
We should choose our own beliefs and values."