

3rd Place award for two poems: High School AND FAT by Anika Rahman

High School

I think a lot

About everything, really

That new shirt I just bought

The time I made that basketball shot

Doorknobs, daisies, dumpsters, and more

My head is full of thoughts galore

The other day,

I came to find

A whole new thought

It caught

Me by surprise

And brought

A lot

Of feelings

I became distraught

I ought

To have thought

About this one before

I only have one more

Year of high school

Now, as a rule,
Nobody likes school
It's the only way to be cool
And to be honest,
School can be cruel

But I am not,
And never have been, cool
I drool
At the idea of school
I love everything about it
Waking up early
And getting dressed
Brushing my teeth with crest
I feel blessed
And walking into the halls?
You guessed it
I'm obsessed
I love waving to randoms
School is a freak-fest

Class is the best
Seating plans don't get me stressed
I quite enjoy them,
Especially in Chem,
Because you just never know who you'll meet
It's really neat, such a treat

School is sweet
Where else would you compete
And beat,
Completely defeat,
Your opponent
And then eat
With them?

Which brings me to lunch
Where we crunch and munch
And the elite
Have a special seat
Of course, it's not written in concrete
Everything's very discrete

I love to fret
About stupid things
Like my eyelashes
Call me shallow,
But I bet
You've never met
Someone who doesn't set
Expectations based on looks

I love how
In high school, they allow
Creativity, like wow
There are plenty of clubs

To suit your passion
Whether it be fashion,
Or art,
Or sports that you take part
I love that my biggest problem
Is my geography test
Which I plan to ace
I love this place
Everything about it I embrace
The last thing I want is to erase
Every trace
Of these days
I want to remember every face
And never replace
This crazy space
I like to call high school

Fat

I love food
All kinds of mouth-watering goodness
I never discriminate
Control my weight
Check my metabolism rate
Wait to fill up my plate
Because food tastes great

I like rolls of sushi,
Red, orange, and green

Tacos and burritos
Filled with cheese and beans
I devour swirls of cheesecake
Creamy and rich,
Crispy or sticky
Like I said, I'm not picky
I enjoy curry
Chicken, beef, and lamb
Don't you worry, I'll finish every gram
Big surprise, I'm brown
Oops.
Is that politically incorrect?
No disrespect
I apologize, 'cause I'm not perfect

I was at a dinner a few months back,
Having a snack,
When this woman comes, right?
I swear, man, she was on crack
Being all wack,
Decided to attack
Me

Girl, you have gotten fat, she claims
My throat goes up in flames
Fat, as we all know,
Is a three letter word
Though it tends to grow

Into huge terms
Filling up my mouth
Too vast to say aloud
Until there's no room
For food

Fat is a whole language all on its own
Greedy, piggy, no muscle tone
Ugly, chunky, lazy, alone
Stupid, loser, no collar bone
That night, I go on with my routine, strip off my jeans,
Except this time, I step on the weighing machine
98 pounds, it flashes green
Suddenly I am keen to become lean

Counting calories is my religion
I have this need within
To be thin
My world starts to spin
I have to win

No more eating after 6
Just for kicks
No more missing one day of running
Because I need to be stunning
Which is synonymous
With being cadaverous
You know-- skinny

Not me, though,
Because I am fat

45, 50, 55, 60 minutes

You can never work out enough,

If you want to be hot stuff

But not too much muscle training

Cause you don't wanna be buff

Or a ball of puff

Like me

Because as you can see,

I am fat

I was at a soiree the other day,

And I ran into that woman I was telling you about

She said hey, you look pretty today

A little thin though

My heart soars because thin,

The word thin,

Is just that.

Flimsy, slim, slender, slight

Like really, this time, I could care less

What you think,

Because this time, I must confess

That even though I've had some success

And I've made some progress

I can't take a recess

From obsessing and stressing

I'm a mess

Because I guess

I am still fat