

Seeing the Whole World

By Jordyn Costa

All I could see was pitch-black darkness. I knew it would help if I opened my eyes, but I couldn't; being up this high had always scared me.

The aroma of buttery popcorn filed the air and made it a little hard to breathe. My stomach had this queasy feeling. Maybe it was our small cart swaying back and forth like a tiny boat in a storm, or maybe it was the idea of looking down. The squeals of delight of my adventurous friends next to me. We were all taking turns stealing glances from the sides of the railing, and now it was my turn.

Trembling like a feather in the wind was my pale hand grasping for dear life on the side of the cool metal rail. The carnival music was ringing in my ears, mocking my cowardice. All I had to do was look down once, and that would be it.

Opening my eyes at the last second, I saw it. The world. Well, not the whole world, just the view of the state fair's lot, but it sure seemed like it! The dunking booth was like a small green speck; the bright lights of the fun house were faded. All of the sudden we were moving again.

The whole ride down I was staring in awe. When we safely were on the ground, the only thing I could think of was going on the Ferris wheel again.

Lonely

By Virginia Skinner

It was not seeing him.
The lawn was empty,
The trees empty,
The street empty,

At first I didn't even know I missed him,
or was even looking for him.
Just a vague stirring of dis-ease in me.

The Incredible Hulk

By Nick Pippins

Waiting at the front line of the amazing Hulk roller coaster at the Universal Theme Park, dad and I felt pretty sure that we were ready for the unexpected twists, sweet turns and flips of this ride.

The bright neon green coaster, filled with people with their hair blown back, rolled and yielded in the front of the line of people eager to step in. I climbed into the seat and pulled down the safety rail.

Buckled and strapped down, I was a bit nervous about the whole idea of going one hundred miles an hour. After all I was only eleven.

As the ride started moving slowly toward the launch pad, I couldn't wait. The coaster was about halfway up the track when a voice started talking, and suddenly we were shot out! The flips and sharp turns scared me half to death. Holding tightly to the safety rail, my eyes shut tight, my stomach dropped. People around me screamed and yelled. I couldn't blame them. My eyes were now open, focused on what might lie ahead, but before I knew it the ride was over.

After all that excitement and feeling very light-headed and unstable, I wanted to run to the front of the Hulk all over again!