

Junior Division, Prose (15 years & under)

Eva Haas, St. John's

Everything I'll Never Tell You (an excerpt)

That rainy fall afternoon, Tamara's life split into her before and after. And she made a choice, over and over again: she made it over coffee and in the hotel after prom and the night before her wedding day. It proved who she was, the tangled, desperate reality, and it hurt her to stand there and know she was going to lie. She kept it to herself, the ultimate of her truths, and this was the day that threw it into sharp relief, everything that she would never tell him.

You've really never thought about me that way? Ethan had asked.

"Remember? I'm out of your league, babe," Tamara said, and turned away from him.