## 2025 Senior Poetry Winner

## hierarchy of existence by Alexis De Roose

does that mean that it never existed
if no one ever sees your smile
does that mean that you never had one
if you never had a smile
i never had a Place to begin with
all i had were memories
and with my body they shall be burned
then a memory is all i will be

but with a smile perhaps i will be a Place.

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