Advice for my Little Sister
by Kristina, eighth grade poet

If you can deal with peer pressure without losing yourself
And find simple ways to turn down the opportunity,
If you can laugh at yourself with everyone else
And look at everything with a positive attitude,
If you can find the strength to admit you’re wrong,
Even when you may think otherwise,
If you can cope with loss of a childhood friend
And realize that maybe the friendship wasn’t meant to last,
If you can deal with drama but not exaggerate the situation
And admit that you’re human too,
If you inspire the mind of someone else
And inspire yours as well,
If you can keep your spirits high through struggle
And continue to stay high until the end,
If you can learn to apologize while looking someone in the eye
And accept one sincerely as well.
If you can learn to get along with someone you despise
And be polite for it may lead to demise,
If you can stay true to your family
And leave no one behind,
If you can play on a team and work together
And not make it about “I,”
If you can succeed with these goals during every day
And taking it minute by minute, day by day,
If you can listen, little sister,
Then your life in middle school will breeze by this way.