

Starting from day one in my sessions with Jaclyn, I have been thoroughly impressed with her ability to incorporate abstract images and descriptive language in her writing. She writes from her heart and has the amazing ability to connect emotions and feelings with the words she uses. I really enjoyed witnessing this story as it developed into the great piece that it has become!

~Amy VanProosdy, Tutor

### **The Great Divide**

By Jaclyn Esqueda

There we stood,  
you and I,  
our toes on the edge  
of that new frontier,  
each waiting for the other  
to drive the last spike,  
so we could travel across miles  
of forgotten doubts  
and meet in the middle  
of our Promontory Point.

I could've been  
your reckless Bohemian,  
all beauty and freedom.  
You would've been  
my stoic steam engine,  
all power and speed.  
And we would've been  
a fiery blaze of fitful life.

But we would've clashed like flint and  
stone,  
our differences sending sharp sparks  
to catch the unnourished grass all ablaze.

So there we stood,  
you and I,  
each waiting for the other  
to turn and run,  
so we could burn our Manifest Destiny  
to the ground  
long before it ever had a chance.

And now the prairie grass  
is wild and unconcerned  
where we might have built gardens.  
My smile echoes loud  
across the abandoned plains  
of what we could have grown.  
Your laugh shines golden  
along the horizon  
of all that we never reached,  
although we should've run.