



# Hieroglyphics: the NSU University School Literary Magazine

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## When Desolate

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# Supernova Sonnet

Brianna Gonzalez

Tucked in a corner of galaxy dust,  
A giant star takes a shuddering breath.  
Its surface has turned the color of rust,  
A color all stars do when they near their  
death.

The outer layer – hydrogen – is gone,  
Helium hisses as it burns away.  
Silicon, oxygen, carbon, neon,  
They all burn off, but iron, cold and  
gray.

Gravity pushes in, the star fights back,  
The surface flickers like cigarette butts.  
Abruptly it's over, the star turns black,  
And paints the night with all its vivid  
guts.

But even in death the star still burns  
bright  
And the gas is a home for newborn  
light.