

Last Name McLaughlin  
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Sec 4

English IIXL / Shakely

Original Poem Log # 1

*One log hides another, as one idea, one chore.  
Many of these you'll provide, I trust.  
Painful, tedious, insufferable, yet a must.*

Date 1 / 25 / 14

Title "Hidden" (Optional; add later? First Idea to Hit you?)

**Context** (Required. When/Where Written? Impetus/Catalyst/Source of Inspiration? Who or What?)

I wrote "Hidden" on my computer at my house when an original poem about absolutely anything was assigned by Mr. Shakely for homework. Of course, being my first poem that I have written for the poetic vision project, I was unsure of any personal inspirations or motivations to follow in order to write the poem, and so I turned to poetry prompts online. One website in particular, known as Poets&Writers, seemed to offer interesting and rather stimulating prompts, one of which was entitled "What the Eye Can't See." This prompt not only seemed to be relevant to English 2XL literature and to life in general, but it also offered an abstract idea and concept for me to build and elaborate on in a more personal and unique way. The poem displays various items that are intangible and "hidden" from the human eye and the effects they have on people.

**Meaning** (Required. **This is more important than poem itself**): Immediate CM re: the process, the product, your satisfaction/dissatisfaction level.

- 1 What were you trying to accomplish with poem? Theme? One-word ? CM/20 Questions?
- 2 Initial impressions once completed ("...started off good, .lost it"; Satisfaction / Dissatisfaction with it? Other?)

With this poem, I was trying to get across the significance and influence of the unseen or hidden in people's everyday lives. Even though they may not appear to exist or are even overlooked and not contemplated, these invisible forces affect people in immense and meaningful ways. For example, although they are intangible and concealed from human view, emotions and feelings still remain some of the most significant factors in influencing a person's decisions, actions, and ultimately his productivity and well-being. Because they are inherent and intrinsic parts of life, emotions however are often not examined by the person experiencing them, which can lead to even greater difficulty and complications. Ultimately, "Hidden" tries to relay to the reader the complexity of the invisible. Perception determines the motives and impetuses on which a person acts, and so a better understanding and realization of the scope of one's perception is significantly important in order to function to the best of one's abilities. Overall, I was relatively satisfied with the first four stanzas of the poem, but the ending and last stanza seem to remain rather abrupt and insignificant to the overall purpose of the poem.

**Relevance / Allusions (optional)**: Connections? Personal experience [Micro]? Historical [Macro]? Lit allusions?

"Hidden" clearly relates to perception and the ability of a person to discern the meaningful and significant from the fake and artificial. As a high schooler and member of a generation that cares so much about their social reputations, discernment between the genuinely kind and compassionate from the deceivers has never been more relevant. Kenneth Koch's poem "One Train Hides Another" and Annie Dillard's essay "Seeing" are also significantly applicable in terms of distinguishing the real from the unreal.

**Form (optional)**: Anything you tried to do? Nothing? Diction? Poetry Terms? Symbolism? Why?

For the most part, "Hidden" is a literal representation of the intangible and abstract items that dominate the world and human society. Each of the three middle stanzas, though possessing no particular rhyme scheme or meter, are meant to contain a new and unique invisible item each as well as explain the impact that this item has on humans as a whole. "A mother's love" in the last stanza metaphorically brings to life the greatness of the impact and influence that the hidden world has on the tangible, concrete world.

**The Poem Itself** (attached): (Rough Draft Perfectly Acceptable. Need not be a neat copy. Or you may attach draft work if