

Braeden Chen
8th Grade, Dorris-Eaton School
One Change, Two Endings
2nd Place, Middle School Creative Writing

“All who are applying to this school please come to the front.”

A loud voice yelled from the podium, where the headmaster stood. A stream of black and white flowed to the front. It was like an ocean of people. There were too many people to even count.

“Note that this school has a few restrictions. First of all, only boys are allowed.”

When this was said, a massive portion of the group went back to their seats from where they came.

“As well, this school only will accept native-born kids.”

Once again, this sentence sliced up another portion and the audience devoured this group. All the sudden, there wasn't an ocean, but at most, a small pool of kids.

“Also, you need a 4.0 GPA to join.”

The audience was silent. Not a single kid moved.

“Finally, this school will not take those with black skin.”

Just like that, pool of kids was gone except for about 5 kids. The headmaster called them and just like that, they were the only new students that year. A small clap came from the audience.

The children and their parents walked away together, all very sad that they were rejected, even though they all had the grades to go there, they just didn't have anything else. As well, this was the only school in the area that they had a chance in. If only they were boys. If only they weren't black.

Years later...

The sky turned a shade of red never seen before. A war broke out that could never be won. America fell into a crisis, without those properly educated, nothing could truly progress. The armies were not intelligent, not knowing to work anything, resulting in going into battle with bare fists. Strategies were poor. Business men made horrible investments, resulting in another Great Depression. Nothing could work correctly without education.

“All those who are applying to the school, come to the front.”

A loud voice yelled from the podium, where the headmaster stood. A stream of black and white flowed to the front. It was like an ocean of people. So many, it would take a year to count.

“This school has three restrictions. First, you must have a 4.0 GPA to come here.”

A small group of kids went back to their seats.

“Second, you have to be taking at least 2 extra curricular at school or outside.”

Only 3 kids went back to their seats.

“Finally, you must not have ever received an update or note of any sort.”

The audience was silent. Not one of the children moved.

“Well, come on inside then and get registered.”

A loud cheer came from the audience as the kids ran into the school to get registered. The kids who didn't get in walked together. They were very sad that they weren't able to get into the school. If only they did better in school. If only they took just one more extra curricular.

Years later...

The sun was shining and everything glowed. America thrived as to be the leading country in discoveries of technology and more. From teleportation, to government stability, and having the world run in complete peace. Everything was well.

Education powered the growth of America. And the more educated people, the faster and more efficiently that growth will come. When this massive spurt of growth comes depends on how well all are equally treated today.
