

Celebrating Writers and Writing in our Communities

Volume 2 | Issue 1

Article 10

2019

Realize

Rheannon Swim

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/rwc>

Recommended Citation

Swim, Rheannon (2019) "Realize," *Celebrating Writers and Writing in our Communities*: Vol. 2 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/rwc/vol2/iss1/10>

This Poetry Informational/Argument is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Celebrating Writers and Writing in our Communities by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. For more information, please contact kyle.morgan@humboldt.edu.

Realize

By: Rheannon Swim

Last summer my mother drove me to a new idea.
A new thought,
A new realization.
I come from a place where there are more than fifty trees per person
And the mountains that seem to be reaching for the heavens.
Creeks roll into rivers that are full of salmon and steelhead.
A world that seems like a paradise.
A place that seems to prove against the rumors of climate change.
Up until a faithful journey to a place of shock and disparity.
Who knew that a simple trip can shake up the minds of two young kids?
From a place so plentiful with trees to a land that seemed to have been dead for years.
Miles upon miles of dead grass, dry land, and telephone poles.
Hot, dry wind dances like glass shards across my face.
That's when I realized that this is why people are worried,
Realized that this is what we are doing to this planet.
Realized that this is what we need to fix.
More and more animals are being poached and hunted each day.
Rivers and lakes are bleeding out with panic to meet our extreme demands.
And we are more focused on our lives to see it coming.
Whether it's grades, money, or even spending a bloody good picking out a shirt you'll
only wear
once.
We keep worrying that we are not looking for this world.
But maybe we should realize that maybe this world isn't long for us.