

## **Technically Difficult: A Spoken Word Poem**

By Maya Woolridge, age 17, Darrow School

We are a world of taps and clicks-

No touches

With knowledge in our very clutches

Entrapped in-the-net; no escape

Yet asking for jailbreaks

I-L-Y comma space bracket three

I-H-Y type comment post complete

L-O-L colon space parenthesis

We are silenced of the mouth

But rapid at the fingers

Only when the connection is out

Is when community lingers

Pixelized punches

To real life ducks

You regret typing that

And mutter “Oh shucks”

Can’t say “I love you, Mom”

Too awkward, wouldn’t it be?

Because as soon as you get home

You shut the door and turn on the T-V

While I recite, you look at your iPhone

Everybody texts,

Leave no message at the tone

Surfing the internet?

I'll leave you alone

Boring your eyes to the bone

Virtual king, virtual throne

All around the world,

Yet stationed at home

“Is the internet working?”

You dare ask me

Is this what it feels like

To be in the 21st century?

Likes associated with beauty?

Snap, post, caption “I’m such a cutie”

With the strength of the internet,

We slowly suffer

We lose our sense of touch

But our fingers get tougher

Shall we overcome

Our solitary greed?

Hopefully these words

Has planted a seed

“Please grow connections”

I beg, and I plead