

First Honorable Mention – Grades 5 & 6

## Questions

My radio blares:  
Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, Ariana Grande  
sing about their perfect lives.  
Each is different;  
but the same:  
all something amazing about their stardom,  
like arriving in New York City  
or getting a new boyfriend,  
unaware  
of anything bad in the world.

Why don't they realize?  
Don't they know?  
Why don't they recognize  
there are people  
who don't lead perfect lives?  
Who are starving? Homeless? Abused?  
Misunderstood? Bullied? Alone?

Are they obsessed with themselves  
because they don't know?  
How can they not know?

I know.

**by Zoe, Edgecomb, ME**