

Anja Hansen  
Mrs. Berry  
LA 10 Honors  
April 30, 2021

Long ago, before thought had given way to chaos, there was a terrible, devastating storm. It was so big it covered the entire world. After days of rain and hail and sleet, with the wind roaring louder than all the other sounds on the earth, a single bolt of lightning shattered the sky. For a split second the planet was lit up brilliantly. The most minute details could be made out in the flash, the individual blades of grass in a field, the strands of string in a candle's wick. Then the lightning snapped into a billion little arcs of electricity that sailed through the black clouds like snakes, burning holes into the sky like cinders falling from a campfire. The roar of thunder that came afterwards rattled the earth. A baby's toy in the hands of Nature. After the storm passed, the people came outside and looked up to the heavens. Bewildered, they pointed to the trillions of stars above, the remnants of the lightning seared into the night sky forever.