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The Golden Touch

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The Golden Touch

MICHAELA KOP

Creative Writing

The title “The Golden Touch” alongside the mention of King Midas in the second stanza are both allusions to the Greek myth of King Midas. These allusions further emphasize the poem’s message of the consequences of greed. Additionally, the poem is written in iambic pentameter with an AABA rhyme scheme. The colonies of ticks and fleas serve as a metaphor for some of the unsustainable systems based on consumption currently in place. Overall, this poem is meant to represent the long-term consequences of abusing nature’s limited resources.

THE GOLDEN TOUCH

A being of blue of fire and of sea
Matured to dappled green and came to be
And on her lush green fur there quickly grew
A colony so full of tick and flea.

These thieves, they stole her precious wooden crown
Their metal arms were made to tear it down
They’d drink till they were drunk on her black blood
So Midas looked, and gold was all he found.

So drained of all and left with none, she fell
And not one stopped to heed the warnings well
Consumed by hunger, that is all they know
But now, there’s nothing left for them to sell.



I am currently a first-year undergraduate student here at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I am majoring in Molecular Cell Biology and hope to later work as a professor or a physician. I tend to gravitate toward math and the natural sciences, but recently I’ve discovered a love for literature as well. In an attempt to widen my range, so to speak, I read some poetry collections over the summer and became inspired by their powerful messages and striking imagery. Of the poems I’ve written so far, this is one of my favorites, so I’m thankful for this opportunity to share it.