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Samuel Caugherty

Grade 8

Ms. Lacher-Starace

Mickelson Middle School

Janean Caugherty

429 Hunters Ridge Road

Brookings, South Dakota 57006

(605) 690-0766

janean@century21gka.com

In the Hands of the Book Holder

Picture a 245-year-old book. Picture that several people are holding the said book, but they all have to hold it together, and without one of them, the book only gets heavier. Then people begin to fight for control, one person trying to singlehandedly hold the book when they can not. No one can. They are aware of this fact, yet they deny it. Until the fight over the book becomes illogical. The spine of the book is torn off, and the people see the damage. Some of the bookholders begin to stand back, unsure what to do. The fight continues. They fail to see the damage they are inflicting upon the book. They fail to see that, in the near future, it could drop with no life left. Collapsed, fallen, *destroyed*.

But think again. Think back to when the spine was torn and broken. It had been fractured, but it was fixable. The bookholders could not see that. They thought that if they eliminated the opponent that then the book would be safe once again. But their mindset was the problem. The book would still drop. What if there was a way to save the book before it was too late?

There is. The people are conflicted and filled with hatred towards their ‘competitors’, or the other bookholders. Picture another reality within reach. The book holders watch as the spine breaks, bindings left exposed and vulnerable. They pick up the spine and repair it together, and

the tape adds beauty and character to the volume. All within a short period of time, the book was repaired and more beautiful than before. And more importantly, they did it with love and united to save their book.

The spine is on the ground. It is broken and fractured, and the book will never look the same again. The binding is exposed, and the days left for the book may as well be numbered. And remember the bookholders? They are divided among themselves with one way out. To pick the spine up and repair the book. Together, united over the love for the publication. They can rise and cease the division rather than using the violence, anger, and hatred that was present in the division. There is a way out and a way to heal the book.

The book is much like the United States, caught between, division threatening to tear it apart. And the bookholders? *You* are one of them. Because it is you, for you hold the power to either save or destroy what is left of the book. *What will you choose?*