



SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

founded in 1923, the Scholastic & Writing Awards is the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens and the largest source of scholarships for young artists and writers in the U.S.

Myla Goldberg

Myla Goldberg is the author of Bee Season: a New York Times Notable Book for 2000. She received her Scholastic Writing Award in 1989 for this poem when she was 18.

Itch

By MYLA GOLDBERG

In summer sweat coats me
like animal's fur; I lie
immobile waiting for a
stray breeze
to cool my crawling skin.
The mosquito bite on the
sweet fleshy
inside of my ankle is alive.
I paw at it savagely, claws
unsheathed and for one flit
of a fly's wing,
relief.