

The following poem written Advanced Humanities Institute Scholars in Response to Carlie Hoffman's "When There Was Light"

***Soccer is Two Different Sports***

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Holy Child Rye, Class of 2025

I say I play soccer,  
I'm corrected,  
"You play women's soccer".  
The words stab my heart,  
Like tiny knives on a cutting board.  
"Men's soccer is harder, more competitive."  
All those years I've spent mastering the game,  
All those years, now thrown down the drain,  
Because the soccer that I have scars from,  
The soccer I've bled from,  
The soccer that has taken years of my life away,  
Is easy?  
Men and women's biology is different,  
Men are "stronger",  
But is that really an argument?  
Women are ignored while men are praised.  
Women are spies while men are kings.  
Women's skills go unnoticed.  
But men's skills set the bar,  
Men receive trophies for the bare minimum.