

## **“Listen to Me”**

*Second Place Winner!*

*By: Isabella Whittingahan Jimenez, Age 14, Oklahoma, USA*

*Description: A 17-year-old argues with their mother about feeling under pressure*

*Genre: Dramatic*

*Watch on YouTube*

You're not listening to me! I'm tired of always trying so hard, and it's never enough for you. You're never satisfied. You never once told me you're proud of me. No, stop, let me speak. I can't take it anymore. I thought I could fill this hole in my heart if I made you proud. Now I'm realizing you'll never be proud. I'll never be everything you want me to be. Your expectations are so high, it's not letting me breathe. Not one “congratulations,” or even a “good job.” I'm done trying to be perfect for you. You've never been concerned about what I wanted. I'm going to do what I want now, for me. So I can be happy.

**1-minute cut • approx. 120 spoken words**