

Ruby O'Brien

The Lightakers is a short story I wrote for an annual creative writing competition at my school. It is a short story about a girl living in a world where all light is forbidden and all remaining "survivors" must live in darkness. All sources of light are taken and destroyed by the lightakers. The girl desperately tries to restore light to her life but is constantly defeated. I was inspired to write this story by the growing fear of climate change and the semi-apocalyptic situation that plays out as a worst case scenario in many people's minds due to the impacts of climate change and the government's inaction. The lightakers represent big business and powerful change-makers that choose not to take a stand against climate change while the story's main protagonist and Arthur represent those young activists that protest for action against climate change and its impacts.