

PROUST QUESTIONNAIRE

# Leah WHITE

Sophomore at CHS shares her most treasured possession, her idea of happiness, her greatest regret and more aspects of her life.

BY ELLA ROSEWARNE

**W**hat is your idea of perfect happiness? I think perfect happiness is something that's experienced only once in a while. I would describe perfect happiness as a feeling that you might get when dancing in the rain or when you're laughing so hard you can barely breathe. It's a feeling where everything else goes away and your heart feels full and you're grinning ear to ear. All the times I've felt what I thought to be perfect happiness I've also felt a sense of total and utter presence and my entire self is in the moment. **What is your greatest fear?** Some of my fears are dark water where I can't see the bottom and being in the dark alone. Though, my biggest fear is losing someone close to me. **What is the trait you most deplore in others?** Dishonestly and selfishness. **Which living person do you most admire?** My brother, I love how he is always excited to try something new and puts a lot of effort into it. **What is your current state of mind?** Frazzled. **What do you most dislike about your appearance?** Body type. I think this is more influenced by society's standards than an opinion I have formed myself. **Which words or phrases do you most overuse?** I often find that the words phrases I use most are in response to what someone has said. Most of them are used in a sarcastic way. I'd say the most prominent ones are: "ooh fantastic," "cute," "how rock and roll of you." **When and where were you happiest?** When I'm with my friends or family. I get to express myself to my fullest extent around them. Sharing experiences with people you care about may be one of my favorite things ever. Times I've been the happiest have been things like trips with people closest to me whether it's just a local adventure or elsewhere. **Which talent would you most like to have?** I wish i could sing well, there are so many different things you can do with singing. **If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?** Probably my willingness to push myself to do new things. **What do you consider your greatest achievement?** A couple years ago, I made a ukulele and learned how to play it. **If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what would it be?** Either some type of bird or an aquatic animal, that way I would get a different perspective on the world. **Where would you most like to live?** This question is often in my mind. For me I would want to travel around before I decided to settle down somewhere. Northern Ontario Canada is where I could currently

see myself living in the future. A couple summers ago I started going to a camp in northern Ontario and I was blown away by my surroundings. The trip I went on was a canoe trip so you are out in the wilderness for one month canoing around the lakes and setting up to camp each night. When I'm there I can experience a feeling that is absolutely indescribable. To be able to live by or in a place like that with that energy would be absolutely ideal for me. **What is your most treasured possession?** My most treasured possession is definitely a ring that I have. My great grandmother found it in a flea market in the early 50s. I'm more attached to it because it's from her but I do also love the design. She had many more trinkets as such but they were given to the older grandchildren when I was still very young. Wearing the ring always makes me think of her and the wonderful life she led. I believe it's quite nice to have some inspiration on your finger at times. **What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery?** Having to break in a pair of Birkenstocks after you grow out of your previous pair. **What is your favorite occupation?** My favorite occupation/hobby is definitely mountain biking. Mountain biking is something that I can do when I need to think and clear my thoughts or to do just for fun. I think you'd be surprised how therapeutic it is to absolutely hammer your bike over rocks and tree roots. There a rhythm to mountain biking that you can get into and it almost feels like a type of meditation. **What do you most value in your friends?** Honesty and humor. **Who are your favorite writers?** I really like Ernest Hemingway. I find it amazing how with mere words you can go on a sort of adventure in your mind. **Who are your heroes in real life?** Many are people in my family but I would say I'm definitely a big admirer for people who stand up for themselves and others like A.O.C. **What are your favorite names?** I have a list of names on the notes app in my phone. Some of my favorites from that list are Cordelia, Allanah, Faye, Gabriel and Jacob. **What is it that you most dislike?** I don't like the mindset that isn't open to change and growth. **What is your greatest regret?** Not trying new things, listening to yourself is important, but trying new things and having new experiences really broadens and enriches your life. **How would you like to die?** Either in my sleep or doing something I love.

**Photography by Ella Rosewarne**  
Leah White enjoys spending time outside. In the past six months, she has missed spending time with friends. "With my friends or family I get to express myself to my fullest extent," White said. "Sharing experiences with people you care about may be one of my favorite things ever."