

- By: Tara Brantly
- Grade: 7th
- School: Petoskey Middle School

## The Great Fire

Burning.

Burning.

Burning.

The fire spreads

It destroys everything in its path

1871

The city of Chicago had wood hidden everywhere

Steeple, houses

Sidewalks

And more

The flames rise up

Chanting a song

A song of death

A song of ruin

A song of destruction

Fire licks every wall

Every sidewalk and church

Disguising itself in a layer of smoke

Smoke so thick no one can breathe

Smoke so fierce it stings the eyes

Wind drives the fire

It feels as though it never will stop

The fire enraged

It will have the last of the city

No matter how hard they try

The sky a furious color of red

Intimidation radiates through the air

Children being torn away from parents

Cries of fear ring out

The whole city in a hysterical panic

Burning.

Burning.

Burning.

It's now dying down

But it's too late

The city in ashes

No one could save it

The story is finished

But not with a fairy tale ending

Chicago will never be the same