

Poetry by Katie Rodriguez Banister

The Shade

**Life needs light to see so clear.
Deprivation instills fear.
You can't keep someone in the shade, they'll wither, choke and die.
How can they grow? How will they know what it's like to try?
Protection by prejudice is not the way to teach.
Try understanding and compassion and extend beyond your reach.
Cultivate your being. Don't put yourself above.
Shed beams of light. Flee from fright. Because everyone needs love.**

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Katie R. Banister is a dynamic and entertaining woman on wheels