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## The Never Failing Spring in the Desert

Andrew Carnegie, one of the world's greatest philanthropists

Who built over two thousand libraries once said:

“A library outranks any other one thing

A community can do to benefit its people.

It is a never failing spring in the desert.”

I believe that these words

Tell truth about the library

That the help it provides

Is extremely necessary

I myself have see the impact

That it has on people's lives

Equipping individuals

With curiosity and drive

Coming to my library  
On weekends, breaks, and summers,  
I volunteered my time  
While giving back to others

My community librarian  
Over time became my mentor  
But in this way every person  
Should feel that they are cared for

A library is the cornerstone  
Of an informed community  
It offers every person  
A chance and opportunity

Libraries provide guidance,  
Safety and education  
All of which are a part of  
A democracy's foundation

They advocate for knowledge  
And ceaseless, lifelong learning

Even after graduation

We all will be returning

While some might say teenagers

Rarely set foot in the door

I actually see my classmates

Come visit more and more

And although we can use

Our phones or our computers,

We understand that libraries

Will offer better futures

For not all academic

Research is found online

Some sources aren't legitimate—

Not all are genuine

Hard copies provide thorough,

Reliable information

And guarantee a service—

A stronger education

My peers don't only study there

Surf internet and read,

But also join programs

That help them to succeed

We start new programs yearly,

From book clubs to robotics

And hopefully will add more

On many different topics

“But libraries are pointless,”

Some have this point of view.

However, in the tech age

There's nothing they can't do

The library connects

So many different people

And builds up a community

Where everyone is equal

Our libraries provide us

With invaluable service

But in North Carolina

They serve a greater purpose

Our state connects with schools

And reaches out to students

Encouraging equality

To make all feel included

By owning a library card,

You open many doors:

Tech help and even tutoring

Are going to be yours!

Libraries help us daily

With everything they bring

And we should all appreciate

Our never-failing spring!