

## 281 The Blue Ball

Young environmental activists across the globe have taken up the righteous and moral reins of climate change activism, challenging world leaders to use their authority to mitigate the very factors they have caused in their drive for profits and power.

In 2018, Greta Thunberg started a student strike outside the Swedish Parliament that sparked a movement called Fridays For Future. This student-led movement has since spread across the globe, sparking youth-organized strikes for climate justice. In a 2019 United Nations speech, Thunberg declared, "You all come to us young people for hope. How dare you? You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words."

This figure, inspired by the global movement of youth against climate change, shows both strength and vulnerability. She is young and slender. Her hoodie is open, exposing her to both the elements and to the people who exercise political and economic power over her future climate. She tenderly holds a model of the world in her hand, seething with rage over the future of our world. She thrusts a protest sign in our faces: "Oceans will rise. Cities will flood. Millions of people will suffer. I want you to panic."