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The Vernal Pool

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Peer reviewed|Undergraduate

Black
By Van Vang

Black is the beauty that inhabits my soul.
Black is not afraid of the dark as it is His home.
Black is the cloth that covers my corpse in broad daylight.
Black is the bottom of my sole, stepped on, and scratched up.
Black is the tip of my pencil that was once sharp, now dull.
Black is the screen on the television that keeps me company.
Black is the corner where I stand when days are rough.
Black is the bags under my eyes for I have seen too much.
Black is the color of the bruises I inflict upon myself.
Black is the bottom of the bottle where I drown myself in despair.
Black is the cloud that rains on me to give me comfort.
Black is the sensation that I have come to embrace.
Black is the hole in the wall when all consciousness is lost.
Black is the place I run to hide when I have had enough.
Black is the shadow that seizes my body when I have given up.

I shut my eyes and He is there waiting for me; Black.
He is by my side when everyone else has left; Black.
It is He who dictates my actions so I follow; Black.
He lulls me in silence to keep me sound at night; Black.
I feel safe when He is surrounding me; Black.
I walked toward the light but all I see is Black.
The absence of color is white as the fusion of color is Black.

I hear the cries of a million souls as I think about Black.
I taste a spectrum of sweet and sour as I breathe in Black.
I smell His breath of burning desire for me to devour Black.
I feel the fear of fallen angels as I reach out to Black.

I see the answers to the universe as I gaze off into Black.

My body is heavy, but my mind is at ease now that I understand Black.

My body will soon turn to dust and ashes, a cloud of smoke

Black.

Eyelids Fall

The only thing I hope would not fall
Are your eyelids because when they do,
You will disappear from my sight.
It takes one second for your eyes to close.
One second, like the flash of a dying star,
You take one blink and see
The big black sweater you wore
On that one hot summer day
When you kicked the dirt
Because you were hurt.
You are still too young to understand
What life is when you've only lived half of it.
When they fall, they will rumble
Like the bottom of the bottle against the table
When you drown you yourself in despair.
When they fall, they will shake this ground
And I might take a step back and fall
And realize I have hit rock bottom.
I may never get back up out of the dark.
The hazel shimmer of your iris
Radiates the most beautiful,
The most magnificent shade of sunray
In a world that ceases to exist.
When they fall, the weight of the sky
Will crush my body and shatter my bones
And I alone cannot push it back up,
Up high where it belongs and where
Songbirds could fly for miles on end
As they sing a tune only you and I know.
When they fall, the lashes of your eyes
Will generate a gust of wind so strong,
They rob a butterfly of the dust on its wings.
It will spin me round and round off shore
Drop me in a tsunami knowing I cannot swim
And I will drown as the undercurrent pulls
Me deeper until I lie on the ocean floor.
And when they fall, the door to my future
Will shut and I may never get through.

Ascend to the Throne

Believe me when I say,
I've met the man with bloodshot eyes.
Skin of red, glowing like fire in the sky.
He flies and flies up high,
To find his prey weep below in hind sight.
His ivory horns twist with twisted thoughts,
Contort their bodies and bend their backs.
Hear them cry mercy, mercy, and then laugh,
Make them crawl on fours and up the walls.
Break their bones until they collapse,
Watch the silly man grip the cross.
He flinches to make the man think he lost.
His grin opens up a cavity of pearly whites.
And he turn that cross upside down.

Believe me when I say,
I've become the man with bloodshot eyes.
Skin of red, glowing like fire in the sky.
I fly and fly up high
To find my prey weep below in hind sight.
My ivory horns twist with twisted thoughts.
Contort their bodies and bend their backs.
Hear them cry mercy, mercy, and then laugh,
Make them crawl on fours and up the walls.
Break their bones until they collapse,
I'll make the silly man believe I have lost.
My grin opens up a cavity of pearly whites.
And I turn that cross upside down.

I think I've lost my mind today

I think I've lost my mind today.
This isn't who I am, not where I belong.
I found myself trying to get away.

A happy man I was just yesterday.
I did jump with joy like when I was young.
I think I've lost my mind today.

Optimists say I'll be okay.
What I've seen and what I've done is no fun.
I found myself trying to get away.

My malfunctioned memory causes a delay.
I press the reset button and it's done.
I think I've lost my mind today.

I'm drifting further and further from this place.
But I am still here, contained with chains and a gun.
I found myself trying to get away.

I must leave this body under a sky so gray.
I can see the heavens behind the peeking sun.
I think I've lost my mind today.
I found myself trying to get away.