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Always

Candise W. Henson '12, Gettysburg College

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Always

Abstract

“Always” explores the emotions involved in miscarriage, including the assignment of blame.

Keywords

poems, miscarriage

Disciplines

Creative Writing | Poetry

Always

Because you were the man
who formed her cells with me,
each miraculous, clustered flower
sprouting into sinuous arms—

Because you and I have craved
each other always as opium-riddled
tongues and ravenous crow-clouds
descending on carrion—

Because your fingertips were the only
constellations she saw as shadows
from inside my tumescent womb: five-pointed maps
of heritage and longing—

(and because your hands must
have comforted her, must have made her
covet the world, crave that premature release,
your beautiful, tragic hands)—

—I could not hate you;
I could only scream into you
i carry your heart, i carry it always,
my furious breath in your depressed collarbone,
the weight of my anger settling in your empty eyes
and dilating them, your pupils expanding to fill whitespace,
until finally they blackened, sorrowfully, and you felt the excess
of her ruined body, her desecrated spirit, and how it was sucked from me.
And I, the empty rind, still loved you.