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Why We're Here

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Why We're Here

Author Bio

Caleigh Flegg is a sophomore majoring in English and double-minoring in Writing and Business. She has been writing since before she could talk, and has utilized her passion to become the editor in chief of her high school's literary magazine, a general fiction editor of the Mercury, and a contributor to Women In Read. Caleigh fond of any literature, but has a soft spot for E.E Cumming's poetry and Jandy Nelson's prose.

Why We're Here

we tiptoed into an ocean
like liquid nitrogen swirling around our legs
so cold my breath came faster
pressing my chest against the neoprene
bandage of my wetsuit

I turned to my sister and said
before you die from hypothermia
your entire body fills with the most
soft, golden warmth

and she said shut up
and I sent a bank of blue her way
and then we were giggling
and I felt that golden warmth
but in a way that reminded me
I was alive

connected to her
not by the salt in our blood
but by the salt of the ocean
and we were speckled with sunspots
blinking water from our blue eyes
shielding our fairness from the
blistered sky

I pulled her to me and,
half drowning her,
told her of other wonders

we are built from splintered stars
penguins propose with pebbles
the structure of our DNA came to a scientist in a dream
and sea otters hold hands

and as we tumbled through the ocean
I clutched her to me
both afraid we would drag each other under
and afraid we would drift apart.