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## Up Next

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### Author Bio

Hannah! Evans is a writer, a tutor, and a Gettysburg College Junior from Fredericksburg, Virginia. She's fascinated by the sway that words can hold, and by the magic in the extraordinary and ordinary alike. Hannah! has been signing her name with an exclamation point whenever she can since she was in first grade. She believes firmly in the small things, little intermittent acts of joy, wherever they may be found. She can be found at [@hannahexclamation](#) on instagram and [@hannahex](#) on twitch.

Up Next

HANNAH! EVANS

The human instinct I like to think of best  
 Is the one where we glance at  
 The song about to play next,  
 In some accidental way,  
 Before we know we chose to do that.

Our eyes are always flicking to the words  
 At the bottom of the page--  
 The good words, daring words,  
 Words that make you feel,  
 Like kiss and love and pain.

When we realize what we've done,  
 We must make the momentous decision  
 To scroll back up, or skip that essential,  
 Not-essential piece we left behind.  
 Sometimes, mind already moving,  
 We read the same paragraph infinite times,  
 Without having read it at all.

We're always  
 Leaving off, some would say spoiling,  
 Looking for the future  
 In unconscious ways, and hating  
 That we did that, again.

We're taking the 'natural' away from 'progression',  
 Putting ourselves in medias res  
 And digging, clawing our way back out again,  
 Endlessly skipping back and forth  
 To try and revive a long dead sense of surprise.

Here: I'll give you permission, ease your mind.  
 You don't need to tell yourself not to look.  
 You just have to forgive what you find.