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Dragonfly Thoughts

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Author Bio

Emily Miller is a junior at Gettysburg College, majoring in English with a writing concentration and minoring in music. She hails from Coatesville, Pennsylvania and hopes that her writing will one day help her travel the world.

Dragonfly Thoughts

EMILY T. MILLER

I don't like to think.

To spiral down from one

tiny thought

into endless loops that lead to

nothing productive. Never a

smooth ride down. Always a

hiccup, a jump

onto a different track, but never off the rails.

Always step after

step, calculated,

always spurred by

something, not truly random

like thoughts seem to be.

I'd rather think like Dragonfly.

Dragonfly takes off –

zips across the yard –

zigs through grass –

zags around trees –

no destination –

no planned route –

just darting and dashing

and eventually landing –

only to take off

and dart and dash again.

What does Dragonfly think of itself?

Does it think?

Does it spiral?

Does it wonder

what would happen if it darted left instead of right?

What others think of its path?

Does it know

how many like it are out there?

That it has family all over the world?

That its rainforest cousins are dying before their
species can be named?

That humans, with our looping thoughts, think the world
was made for us, so it belongs to us, so we take what
ever we like and waste no thoughts toward the aftermath?

That its existence relies on bigger, smarter creatures who use
their big, smart brains to think of new ways to ruin its life?

Does Dragonfly know

that one day it will die,

and nobody will remember its name?

Better if it didn't.

Better that it acts in dashes

while we think in loops,

both heading in every direction

toward no conclusion.

We loop for the sake of looping, while Dragonfly zigs

and zags

for no sake at all.