Rusty Lovers

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Molly Masich is a Senior Film Studies Major/Spanish Minor with a penchant for sass and intrigue. Molly! wants you to know that sometimes Right and Wrong are the same thing.

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When my feet hit the pavement, I turned and looked back up the path. You could see the whole hill, right up to the woods that fence off my back yard, and stretching out to both sides. Nearly all my life, it had all been orchards. Before, you couldn’t see anything from the road, not for the trees. I had always thought it was such a great distance, and so beautiful. But it was clear now, and exposed. It wasn’t big anymore, and it wasn’t nice. The land beneath it had been there all along, as had the migrant workers’ huts. I couldn’t stand to look at the ugly grooves that had sectioned off the orchards. It wouldn’t be long before the path I’d walked was a paved road with a meaningless name, before everyone who remembered playing in the orchards as a child was gone from the neighborhood. How long would it be before it was completely unrecognizable?

When people and places change, they change for good. Nothing grows on a scar. Nothing grows on concrete, just as nothing grows in a relationship where fond memories have been ripped away. If there’s nothing left to remind you why you were there in the first place, you won’t go back. You can’t go back.

The sky opened up, drenching me in rain as I stared at the open landscape. I turned to look up the main road, which is at least twice as long as the path. I started walking.

MOLLY MASICH

Rusty Lovers

Old men walk like their fronts are falling down while their backs stand straight up, rigidly. You can’t image their hips ever moved like a well oiled machine. Their lovemaking must always have been rusty.