## Loneliness

I dream of my lover. We only meet while I sleep; his eyes the color of desire. His lips hold water. I sip and our affection grows. I wake to loneliness.

I am used to loneliness. I grieve for my sleeping lover. Without me, he cannot grow. He is eager for me to sleep. His eyes remain dry; his lips spill water. His body aches with desire.

I have a different desire. I can't escape my loneliness. There is not enough water for me and my lover. Yet I anticipate sleep. I dive into bed. My imagination grows.

As I approach, his smile grows. My body is electrified with desire. I want to hold on to this sleep, and forget about my loneliness. I kiss my lover. I drink his water.

He bathes my body with his water. My love grows. I squeeze my lover. He pulls my desire. He is afraid of loneliness. He knows I will leave my sleep.

In the daytime I crave sleep. I am dehydrated; I need his water. I think of his loneliness, and wonder how fast it grows until he reaches unbearable desire. My poor lover. My poor lover who is always in sleep. Water pours from his lips as desire grows, and we are in a constant stage of loneliness.

## Sunday Candy

The church bell rings its cringing chimes. Sturdy heels click against the polished steps up to the consuming carpet that holds the pews. Chattering teeth spits out accusing sentences chastising the hypocrisy of the congregation. Children chew on stale gum from granny as the pastor chants his sermon. The choir sings a hymn to the rhythm of clamming tambourines and off-beat clapping hands. The church cat takes this moment to collect fallen cookie crumbs. Restless husbands fight their cravings for the Chinese buffet Sunday special. The evangelical's stomach churns. She calms it with a mint.

# These Extraordinary Eyes

have seen stress folded in furrowed brows, slumped over shoulders surrendered to gravity, feet walking through unchanging days, ambition snatched from hearts long ago only finding happiness in daydreams until the screeching baby brings back reality, green glares watch others dare explore unfamiliar territory, envious hands snatch the back of shirts heading for glory.

Rebel — let go of comfy crutches, and shrug off empty grudges.

# **Make Me Forget**

Kiss me so I forget what his lips taste like Touch me so I no longer feel him Discover new places his hands never been Stare at me 'till I no longer see his eyes Smile so his smile haunts me no longer Whisper words that he doesn't understand Bathe yourself in a scent not his Hold me so tight that I forget what his hugs feel like Sing to me so his voice is unfamiliar Say something witty so I forget his smirk

Make me forget everything he made me feel. The way we floated above life How everything slowed down when he touched me How his kisses made love to my heart My mind surrendered to his bravery Fear didn't exist with him Dreams felt real He lost his way home to me He took my consciousness I was lost when I lost him

Help me erase him Be everything he is not Make me forget How I still love him

### Pebble

### Selfish

#### Provoking

Piece of shit.

I am a tiny pebble

moving through earth, unnoticed.

I am kicked around

without making a sound.

When I roll around in too much dirt,

I become a boulder.

They scream now as I come

Unexpected, my voice is clear and loud.

They see an evil, mean, spirit

they didn't know was there.

The push back is unbearable,

surprising.

And I withdraw my power

Cowardly, I'm back

to my pebble state.