

Bent Path

Poem I : Hesitate

Hesitate (verb) - to hold back

Hesitant about how I look

Even with abs.

Still ballet teacher fat-shaming,

Incidentally find myself lopsided.

Too much to bear,

Am not enough

To be a ballerina.

Exert myself for a new, old day.

Poem II : Imperative

Imperative (adjective) - crucial; important

In sixth grade,

Muddled, teacher

Pushes for body checkup,

Even imperative.

Rating above full, barely any homework.

All the fuss

To what extent, confusion explodes.

In no means for lifestyle changes,

Versatile not,

Every heartbeat counts.

Poem III: Genuine

Genuine (adjective) - authentic; real

Getting to the doctor,

Easy and smooth but

Nothing beats genuine doctor

Uttered *scoliosis*

In my face, thrown off path.

Not happening, not happening.

Eating myself alive.

Poem IV: Heart

Heart (noun) - center

Hate to be truthful, best friend Ashlynn

Ends up asking when it will go away.

Actually has it, not as bad.

Rummaging through, heart of issue, rocks,

Tenacious resentment, ocean crashing, stumbling.

Poem V : Tighten

Tighten (verb) - constrain; become tight

Told to wear brick-hard brace,

Irritating to the bone.

Go to school, grapevine,

Hostility but Ashlynn puts on.

Time for class, brace not obstacle,

Equals tighten, passing out.

Nighttime only now.