## Lady Macbeth

There's nails in my cheeks Screws my husband left for the winter in their ghost caskets Spring has come now I eat the jam I made for breakfast, lunch and dinner. A single peach could last me weeks.

I have a clicking in my ankle that walked 100 miles Blisters grow moss and sprouts around my palms the bathroom carpet stares red daggers into my eyes

I stare back at it We are full of resentment, me for the stain, them for the disappointment. Ghosts grab hold of my hair Strangling my forearms with their firey branches, the water gluing me to the floor. I dry in patches, the fire following along and down my legs. My last moments stand in the eye of the hurricane. she has never seen such beauty as that in the eye of chaos. I am a mud pie maker and an academic servant I am a girl playing dress up in her moms closet and a cog in the machine I am the machine and I am the gears and the hands and the face and the clock

My map is only the setting of the sun as my soul rots behind my eyes

and I feel nothing but grief

Why am I so scared to experience the murky hell

What is the self that I bow to

what is the enormity of my own being to its fullest extent and what must I do to touch it to know your own mortality is to brush hands with the grim reaper.

A raunchy google form

A thousand black teeth hanging on your forehead You smell blood in my words You find the cut on my knuckle Like you find me in a crowd Like I can find you in my childhood home Biscuit crumbs trail to the drum sets Arms in the cookie jar Teeth against skin You find my soft spot like orange in the crayon bucket Like cardboard and tape A lighter against rope A flame against my lashes I can find you in every billboard I pass I could look for you in the bass player of every band But you burn wax chandeliers off the tables And I am not your compass anymore e But what about for old times sake What about the love that used to be there ? What grows in the winter months? What love blooms through the frost? You are a casket full of daisies and I would pick every petal before I missed you

## Childhood fears

my moms smoke tastes the same The same as my grandmas The same as my aunts It tastes like tears Like the ocean from a far Like flip flops in my cousins backyard It tastes like long nights cigarette butts on the edges of a beer mornings filled with rolls and resentment It tastes like my aunts bakery closing My moms graduation My cousins last trip to the hospital It tastes like my family Like my hurt and my love It tastes like home it tastes like an epilogue like the last chapter of a short story like the poetry I wrote on my wrists It tastes like her wedding dress Her shattered mirror Her Smokey clothes It tastes like her love Like her joy and her fear Like her cold spaghetti on Saturday mornings She tastes like hurt She tastes like lava and sharp stones she tastes like the bump on the back of my head She tastes like self soothing Like the addiction in my blood Like the itch I can't reach Like the bleeding bite i scratched too much She tastes like the bruise I won't stop poking Like the blood in my ankles Like the blade on my skin Like the dread on my face It tastes like our shattered platter Our unpacked bags Our worst fear Our reality It tastes like lipstick for Christmas It tastes like my mom's And it tastes like my grandma's And it tastes like mine

Dead as a Daybed

My first grave is in a shower in Dallas It's wet and covered in moss 13 years it's grown mold 17 years I've watched it grow

The first time I saw it after I cried I looked my mirror in the eye and scolded you for watching For not changing my fate

My second grave is 7 years old and supposed to be playing soccer But instead she's in the bathroom There's no air conditioning so it's hot and the blood sticks to your forehead like sweat My hips ache and I understand why bridges are made I too want to cross rivers and mountains

My third grave is 11 years old and just wanted to get water I never thought these shorts were dirty But I'm laying on the carpet with a washcloth and I know I'll never be clean again

My fourth grave is 13 and didn't know how to drink The fan hitting my head The foot under the table The arm around me The car that's 14 feet long

My fifth grave is 15 and smells like closet and pink burst She's happy and giddy and wild She's staring at the fan again Im hearing me hurt again

Now I'm 17 and I lay each grave to sleep each night I roll them around in my hand and place them under my pillow I won't dream of them I can break glass if I only let go Pirates at playtime

Mutiny on the mothership Silver spat in the face of strangers I am quite frightened by a finger They are appeased, undoubtably enjoying the sound of their voice to a friend while I lay dead on the concrete

Sick and twisted fate of your secrets Pyrite fills your mouth with gravel and spit I am no longer a donor of heartbreaks and anecdotes I am horizontal and reaching with the mold

Through sick and quiet friends and foes I will love the image of chaos equally with the absence of life from my world

madness n filth consume the wretched souls of the bright frilled dresses and ribboned shoes that line the halls Hooks on the door to match the hooks on their hands Rocking the boat and walking the plank I fear I can swim but I cannot sleep A reflection of my fears

I am too far off shore I am the sea and the waves and the drowning fish I am the dancer who falls and the writer who dies

I hold a rage in my shoes that blisters and bites and whispers sweet nothings at dinner