

CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Featured Poem

Poem by Abbigale Evans, Designs by Taylor Bush

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This item presents the featured poem for *Philologia* volume XI. The graphic design work is by Taylor Bush and the poem is by Abbigale Evans.

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Competing Interests

The author has no competing interests to declare.

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FATHER TIME IS OUT BINGE DRINKING AGAIN
HE ALWAYS TELLS HIS WIFE HE'S GOING ON
A COFFEE BREAK, BUT WHO GOES ON A BREAK
FOR COFFEE AT ONE A.M. IN THE NIGHT
SHE BELIEVES HIM, I THINK SHE MIGHT HAVE TO
OR SHE'S LOST HER CHANCES AT HAVING TIME

HE LEFT HIS COFFEE ON THE WINDOW SILL
SHE DID NOT MOVE IT SINCE HE LEFT THAT DAY
IT'S FULL OF DUST AND COBWEBS NOW I LOOK
INSIDE IT AND SEE MY BLACK REFLECTION
I THINK HE DROWNED SOMEWHERE INSIDE OF IT
SOMETIMES I IMAGINE HIS WHITE TINY
CARCASS FLOATING AROUND LIKE MARSHMALLOWS

MY MOTHER CAN'T SEE HERSELF IN THE MUG
SO SHE JUST STARES AT THE FIRE AND SHE SMOKES
UNTIL HER LUNGS ARE AS BLACK AS THE EMPTY DOORWAY
AND WATCHES THE CLOCK, WAITS FOR FATHER TIME
TO WALK THROUGH THE DOOR, TO BE HOME AGAIN
AND TO SAY HE'LL NEVER RUN OUT AGAIN

BUT I KNOW HE WILL LIKE HE ALWAYS HAS
LIKE ON ONE OF THEIR DATES, WHEN HE ASKED HER
"WANT A DRINK?" AND SHE SAID, "I CAN'T ANYMORE."
AND THEN, LIKE ALWAYS, TIME RAN OUT AGAIN
AND SHE JUST SAT, WONDERING WHERE HE WENT.

FATHER TIME'S COFFEE BREAKS:

Poem by Abbigale Gray

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