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She

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She

Danika Ogawa

I.

she floats on the surface and skips work twice a week, she can't bear the ringing of that damn sound, her hair is constantly changing and it's blonde now, but tomorrow it will be pink or purple maybe, and her eyelashes and tan are fake like her smirk, and she doesn't go to class and it hurts, and her pants don't fit like they used to, and the lexapro isn't doing its job, and it's all so gray and macabre, and she keeps sipping, keeps sipping, keeps sipping,

II.

and its vomit on the floor and the house is a mess and she hates herself even more for it and she can't not look in the mirror and fix what she's told to hate but expected to love, And the bank account is always empty, and she can't make herself look at old pictures anymore—

III.

And,

Her hair grows,

She calls her mom more now,

The books have more bent pages,

She goes to class now, she even talks,

She looks up at the sun and smiles even though it hurts her eyes.

She bought some new pants, and she likes these better.

She looks behind with a wave.

Danika Ogawa is currently a junior at UND. She is majoring in English while working towards a certificate in creative writing. When she is not writing, you can find her reading, or teaching dance at a studio in town. Danika is from Grand Forks, ND.