



2021

Why I Write

Elena Uhlenkamp

[How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/floodwall-magazine>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Uhlenkamp, Elena (2021) "Why I Write," *Floodwall Magazine*: Vol. 2: Iss. 6, Article 22.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/floodwall-magazine/vol2/iss6/22>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Floodwall Magazine by an authorized editor of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

Three Poems

Elena Uhlenkamp

Why I Write

Tip-tap goes the keyboard; scritch-scratch goes the pencil;
thunderous thoughts falling into steady words
in hopes of chasing away the little mind devil.

I sit, etching my thoughts in the pages of a journal,
hummingbird phrases flying around my mind's orchids;
Tip-tap goes the keyboard; scritch-scratch goes the pencil.

Here comes the mind-demon, trying to muzzle
my mind, to pull me downwards. I push words onwards
in hopes of chasing away the little mind devil.

Sentence yarn form from my brain's spindle.
I knit prose and verse with the neighboring dryads.
Tip-tap goes the keyboard; scritch-scratch goes the pencil.

The mind-demon doesn't quit; we continue with our battles.
He's gone now, but he'll be back. Ink stains my skin purple.
Tip-tap goes the keyboard; scritch-scratch goes the pencil,
in hopes of chasing away the little mind devil.