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## out of spite

Jayden Buckau

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my best writing always  
had a healthy dollop of spite  
despite the respite of the written  
word my vision colors crimson from  
the blood used as ink as I color the page  
with my furious words my biblical rage my  
ever-present grief the dead girl in my head the  
child with no name finds comfort in my calligraphic  
callous cacophonous chaos oh oh oh others beg me to set  
down the pen as I carve into the skin failure they failed me  
the tiny child inside me screams everyday not to forget her she  
didn't think we'd live this long everything hinges on my writing and  
with her little lungs wailing so I don't think I'll ever stop writing no never  
scream child let me hear your grievances I am your unelected official fueled by  
the currency of my youth wasted no child shriek because I want it back out of spite

**Jayden Buckau** (2002) is a graduate teaching assistant and master's student in the English Department. He did his undergrad at Black Hills State University in South Dakota. He has lived in many places across North America and enjoys traveling, which inspires a lot of his writing. He's queer and trans, has a dog named Bailey, and has a deep love for queer and gender studies in literature as well as the new historicism form of criticism.