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THE LANCE

December

Quill & Ink

(YOUR EYES) BETWEEN THE LINES OF SHAKESPEARE'S

plays i see an image of your face brown eyes captured deep inside the cavern of your long brown hair like the woman in that Laughlin

poem and i can taste your mouth your skin i told you tasted salty sweet and i can hear your breaths come short and fast while i

plant kisses on your face your cheek now fore head nose your ear your neck stretched out your head thrown back now vision of you on your

couch i'm sitting next to you i think you're mad and that maybe i should leave but i don't want to leave you angry although my presence

seems only to fan the spark of annoyance in ...

Jon Pargas

"Wet Dream" For Dave

The ground is moistened from the evening's moon. My dreams are leaving me incomplete Now the lawn breaks, it's all too soon My fitful sleep has become defeated. The magnificent hues fo the morning Discover sunbeams with whom to play The dew won't last even though it tries to cling Held by the magic of the Mother's gift As I watch the moisture slowly fleeting And the sun's rays begin to penetrate I feel the earth's heart continue beating Until a burst and a need to celebrate There's a recreation of life within Even with her flaws it's no doubt a win.

Laura Molinario



Things That Break

You,

from the flattered window of my mind I am showing you: glassy eyes are fragile. yet you are the street vendor you are the tree farmer you are an open field a dilated pupil

Me,

bathing in the bathtub of my battle swimming in my splintered sea of sarcasm

I am the drowning clown drowning in the dreams I don't remember I am a shattered window I am a broken mirror smiling at the cracks in my irony.

Ruth Eckles

Listening (Life)

Beams pierce trailing Apollo's chariot, the earth swears, and i Rejoice.

From a catch phase of caution, fruit descends, waste sheds, and i Rejoice.

Sweat transmutes to masks of glass, Moon's glow, tide's flow, and i Rejoice.

Flowers seek fruitation, Water cool awaits, and i Rejoice.

Breath and blood are not my own and i Rejoice.

Chad Samuel Haddix

After Hours

It's Saturday night and candlelight has bursted into last call. Among the bobbing and weaving and sometimes upheaving there's still one patron who's having a ball. You sit in a corner more excited than most, never wanting to say good night. The last bar is gone, and we are peeking on dawn, threatened by sunlight. Awake for the last two nights, You hear your final call from a mother's who sweet, and a bed that is soft your eyes settle and fall, the moonlight hits the flowers, then you'll party after hours.

John Null