

PERSONAL STATEMENT

EDITORS' CHOICE IN POETRY | jennifer l. kurz

I cannot say that I am not a woman of faith; that I don't love God despite the horrors that humanity creates, such as the tragic event depicted in my poem, "We All Fall." I would be lying if I disclosed that I never shut my eyes and tried to forget the images from the television, sixteen years old, wrapped up in the pretentiousness of my own teenage drama. I do not now, nor have I ever considered myself a poet, but I would find a sense of fulfillment if someday someone beside myself would call me a fiction writer. I've declined to decide to take myself too seriously or else I will go insane from the lack of being devoid of the disease of humorlessness. I will not divulge all the details about this piece such as the perspective, the symbols, or the internal rhyming for the same reason that most people would rather not be spectators at the piecing together of a jigsaw puzzle. I doubt this poem was formed as the result of a rogue epiphany dealing mercy on me in one of my harried moments as a first generation college student. It is not more likely that in deciding upon the denouement for "We All Fall" I deliberately created a predestined direction than didn't. I dare not give myself credit when in fact the development is due to a class prompt from a professor, Chris Arigo, who is more passionate about poetry than many people are about anything. I'm not a negative person, but I have been disenchanted with certain things such as presently beginning with positive statements and not decisively using a deluge of words that begin with the letter "D" at random intervals. I refuse to deny that I think in terms of birds, and this is my only credit.