



Wound from the Mouth of a Wound

torrin a. greathouse

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Interesting to note exactly who picks up the poetry pen. What life experience, what event, led to the decision? And did the poet even have a choice, or was poetry the last, best way to express what they knew hadn't been expressed before? In the work of transgender, cripple-punk torrin a. greathouse, we now know of an unknown world that leaves us changed.

Metaphors for My Body, Postmortem

Obituary

of slipped tongues;

A new dress stained darker

than the sky; A toe tag

corrected; The letter M

in deep red ink; Mortician's makeup

palette correcting the makeup I died in;

Shirt too tight to hide my breasts; Y

incision before chromosome;

A votive candle—face scrubbed

down to glass; A low attended

protest/funeral;

The news report; A man

in woman's clothing;

The photo album exhumed

& gutted; A mother's favorite

picture of her son; A body

buried male; Closed casket;

Endless closet; The grave

—an open mouth

my family lines like teeth;

Another tombstone vandalized;

Another hashtag trending & then

;

MATT SUTHERLAND (November / December 2020)

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