







A SHANGHAI POETRYZINE

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a shanghai poetry zine

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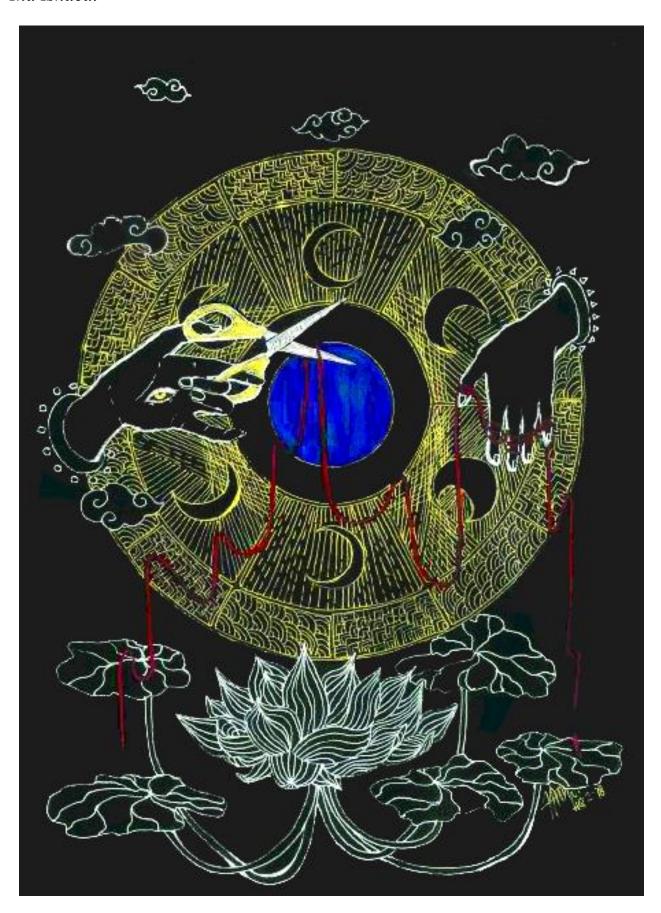
FLIGHT LESSONS

Matthew Bogorad

in months.

One morning, an eastern wind convinced a vellow bee To wander into my classroom and I lost the attention of my students. It weaved between their frantic heads, oblivious to the danger it possesseduntil It got to me. I helped it learn of its intrusion by swatting it from the air and with paper thin confidence approached where it lay twitching with fleeting life. Would you believe the children applauded, as I crushed its broken exoskeleton with a book meant for learning? But the lesson was over. The chatter about my violence was more Distracting than the bee and In the discord I began to wonder what children think will happen to them If they fly into the wrong room by mistake. The right thing to do would have been To tell the truth-that Love is being able to hurt-But choosing not to. The next bee will be welcomeand any after that, but-I haven't seen one at the windowsill

Ina Isnaedi



LANE

Amahl Zamir

What is lurking in the darkness?

What is looking back at me as I'm walking through the lane?

A pair of eyes

No face, just a pair of eyes floating in the gloomy night.

They are looking at me intently, malignantly.

Dark tales are embedded on its wicked stare.

I caught a glimpse of the red eyes, even redder than the blood moon

Spellbinding, enthralling me to spill out the most unholy secret of myself

It is a ghoul of my earlier period, the embodiment of my sin

Lurking in the hallway, wailing and snarling at the same time

I can feel its stare scraping at my front door, ferociously

Keeping my body in fetal position, powerless

Struggling to shut the nasty voice out of my head

Will I ever wake up?

LANTERNS

Mai Stanek

Crimson gourds
Illuminate distracted throngs
Ripeness untapped

Torn
Heat dispels
Life scatters
Swipe
No one notices

ONE WILLOW TREE

Ryan Thorpe

Do you know the willow, that launches boys star-ward, sending them where the wind learns to blow?

Do you know how to ride, the green current of spring? Squeezing it like an orange, till it remembers to bleed.

Careful of the willow that releases boys like leaves, greeting its falling foliage like strangers, their cries for home a raw memory.

WHITTLED WIND

Matthew Nicol

Veritable abstentions:
a multitude of views, blinded.
Points pass, and we're left
thinking —
to what
to who
to whom
is this for?

Nobody.

A hundred years from now my grandchild's child carries my name, perhaps, a name unknown and grandmother laughs remembering her father, who died so long ago

she hears the wind I hear as it whispers – time comes, time goes. At the window it rasps

I soothe you I soothed scalps long gone your bones know.

And here you are chasing gasps flung beyond folly, whittled opportunity.

Your bones know.



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End of this preview.

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