

**when I take my medicine**

originally published in *The Short Édition Short Story Dispenser*, Mohkinstsis, 2019  
anthologised in *Tap Press Read*, Loft on EIGHTH Press, Mohkinstsis, 2020

the boys pelt her with lemons  
dappling yellow cheeks  
at morning recess

the procedure cracked her ribs  
replaced drowning lungs with  
iceberg-shaped pancreases

and so instead of carbon dioxide her  
pancreas-lungs breathe out insulin  
in the schoolyard

note the fluttering of monarchs  
within her rainbow-scarred abdomen  
as she gasps for breath

turns out diabetic shock  
smells like pickled duodenum  
and lemonade

**marriage**

originally published in *The Short Édition Short Story Dispenser*, Mohkinstsis, 2019  
anthologised in *Tap Press Read*, Loft on EIGHTH Press, Mohkinstsis, 2020

*for Viv*

on Wednesdays we wear  
snow shovels and warm coffee  
revving frozen engines together

cultural touchstones and  
supermarket-roasted rotisserie  
make the best soup

our miraculous furnace warms  
my big old nonbinary queer crush  
on you

### **hands on the clock**

originally published in *The Short Édition Short Story Dispenser*, Mohkinstsis, 2019  
anthologised in *Tap Press Read*, Loft on EIGHTH Press, Mohkinstsis, 2020

humming, xe catches thyroids  
strings them up with fishing line  
delicately hanging butterflies

flutter grotesquely  
beside others preserved in  
doxorubicin and formaldehyde

soaks into xyr fingertips  
fascinating that eraser doesn't  
work on skin

### **some day on clothes**

originally published in *The Short Édition Short Story Dispenser*, Mohkinstsis, 2019  
anthologised in *Tap Press Read*, Loft on EIGHTH Press, Mohkinstsis, 2020

*for Claire*

in the death throes of  
summer we smell clipped grass  
and melted ice cream

my fingers stick  
together as we ponder mononucleosis  
embedded in ancestral kidneys

determination in our chin  
generations of laughter in the eyes  
and long naps

someday please  
swim back across the  
mountains to me