

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Honor Giardini: Two Poems

Honor Giardini · Friday, September 22nd, 2023

### Five Musicians

I'm stuck. I stutter like the jerk  
at the beginning of sleep. an accent  
into standing just above the ledge.

I stand there for weeks  
time circles like the glinting  
copper penny I donate at the zoo.  
Lions don't roar half as much  
as they sleep but it's what they're known for

We're a group of musicians crying  
At Pizza Hut on a bright gray  
Saturday afternoon. Each of us vibrating  
with how beautiful sometimes things can be,

How there is at one point four hooves  
in the air when a horse gallops.

how you see it only sometimes.  
when the camera shutters,

how there is silence before  
notes. call it music. we play with time and  
do so now, each of us crescendos

into sentences what we mean to say  
what we have meant to say:  
i have seen the picture.

\*

**IN HERE**

in the shower I paint a smiley face  
 with excess shampoo and I remember wondering  
 why it was so wrong to be naked when my roommate walked  
 in and I ran behind the door and said IN HERE. I remember  
 saying in here less often than I would like,

Yesterday

At the open mic I tried not to cry and then I wished I could;  
 Bella read a poem about a woman with each day in a jar on  
 Her back—and I thought it was fine until I got back to my dorm  
 creaked the door open saw my roommate smiling on her phone  
 and wanted someone to say GOOD JOB an excuse to say IN HERE  
 at night I almost left the bathroom door unlocked so I could;

and I went to bed dirty last night.

I didn't wash myself and I woke up on time but i didn't move

I didn't want to and I didn't want

my days all over me again. I hate that I have skin.

I hate that nothing is as dramatic as it should be, and I think there  
 might be a god; I think there might be a god and I want him  
 to watch me in the shower so I can say *in here*

\*

*This is a series of writing to come from the amazing teen writers who were part of CSSSA (California State Summer School for the Arts)2023. For most, these will be their first publications.*

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