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Electricity

Chris Smith

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Electricity

Abstract

A poem.

Keywords

poetry, poem, power, electric



BOOTH



A JOURNAL

July 20, 2012

Electricity

Chris Smith

I drink electricity for breakfast and am lit up.
 It's the same and not the same as swallowing
 an entire bag of Atomic Fireballs.
 At every point in history someone has been breathing
 fire, or trying their hardest to stop the invention
 of the matchstick. White-hot noise transmits twilight
 through the hanging silhouettes inside
 one's rented vault. Take, for example, the heart
 or the empty tree in the faraway field
 outside my window. A dead ashtray on the vanity
 is tongued in fluorescence, but I don't smoke
 anymore because it kills. The television sits
 like a black hole, remaining only to take me
 inside. I wait for the night. I wait to become
 the streetlight that vacuums in all
 the tall buildings—the brilliance people think
 is worth encountering the night to see.

Chris Smith recently graduated with an MFA in poetry from Cleveland State University and the NEOMFA: Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts. His poem "The Classroom" won a 2011 AWP Intro Journals award and is forthcoming in *Puerto del Sol*. Other poems have appeared in *Umbrella Factory*. Formally an assistant at the Cleveland State University Poetry Center, he is currently attending the Columbia Publishing Course in New York City.