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## Kintsugi

*Paula Heister*

Discarded lives, like broken  
porcelain, always look pristine  
along the fracture lines—  
they glitter in the morning sun:

It's always morning when we spot them,  
neglecting the dawn  
spilt in the streets, collecting  
in pools on the pavement.

We, in our sleepless catacombs,  
where at 500 lux, it's day  
at night, or night, or day, re-  
view the fragment catalogue:

18, F – cuts to wrist,  
40, M – fall from height,  
16, M – gunshot wound,  
20, F – overdose.

Turning the nightshift's treasures  
in neoprene hands, suspecting  
in the flawless, fractured edges  
their creator, indifferent.

### About the Author

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