

## Bekah Steimel – Two Poems

### I.

Exploratory surgery  
the sharpened edge of your questions  
slicing open my memory  
probing my past  
gently  
asking me  
where it hurts  
asking me  
to rate my pain  
but emotion is immeasurable  
and recollection  
can be unbearable  
I'd given up on a cure  
and focused instead  
on palliative care  
the comforting daze  
the comforted days  
now I'm open on the table  
awake and aware  
submitting to your scalpel tongue  
and trusting you  
to help me locate  
and isolate  
the source  
of this life-long infection

### II.

You've finally trampled me  
like a stampede on Black Friday  
hit from every direction  
all because I tried to hold onto something  
I should have never grabbed  
in the first place

**Bekah Steimel** is an internationally published poet living in St. Louis, MO. Find her in *The Legendary*, *One Sentence Poems*, *Sinister Wisdom*, *Southern Pacific Review*, *Vine Leaves*, and more. Bekah's pastimes include flirting, drinking whiskey and making people uncomfortable. Visit [www.bekahsteimel.com](http://www.bekahsteimel.com).