

Lindsay Adkins

Rationing Gretel

If I keep letting the crumbs
commit their long suicide
from the cracks between my fingers
to the dust of the path below,
then how many will I have left in the end?

Squeeze your fist tight, girl.

Or,

the fattest crumb
for the robin's belly,

the hardest for hiding
beneath this stone
so that I may find it later,

the most porous for the breeze,
so I may watch it fall apart.

It is not the giving
or the getting,
but the choosing.

Still, the moon glides
into the lens of the sky
and I worry that come morning,

I'll have no choice in
which crumb to eat,

or whether I am eaten alive.

Lindsay Adkins is a graduate of The University of Hartford, where she received a BA in English and a BFA in Music Theatre. During the day she works in the publishing industry in NYC and by night, she pursues her writing and acting careers. She has been published in *the Aureorean*, *Glass Mountain*, and the poetry anthology *The Colors of Life*. Check out lindsayadkins.net for more info.