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K-LYNN

Prairie Heartbeats

In Memory of Tracy Latimer

Clear blue dipping onto the white-cruited fields of October
 Defined by her birth, spastic, speechless
 A decade and two years of prairie farming
 Emotional turmoil gloved his weather worn hands
 Cab of the pickup truck willingly demarcated
 Wheelchair empty of her cheerful, mischievous spirit
 Their hearts beat in shattered rhythm
 His iron weighted footsteps trudge a distance
 Smothering blanket of exhaust fumes invade
 Gasping! Choking! Lungs bursting her demise—confined!
 Watching the gassy fog become her grave, he waits
 Tick tock, tick tock, thirty strokes of time she fades
 The engine stops!
 His hands touching her limp silhouette;
 Laid in the comfort of her bed; a quilt of denial is tucked around her shoulders
 Her words never to be revealed; his, “For the love of my child!”
 Checks damp with wintriness reality
 Advocates, grieve in synchronicity for justice
 In pandemonium, throats cry out
 Did her eyes blink once for yes, twice for no
 Were their teardrops gushing waterfalls or barren Saskatchewan lands
 Was her mind screaming *DADDY, DDAAADDY* don’t make me go
 Or thinking it’s time now we both know?
 Only their hearts intertwined
 Defending his heart beat in a casket of second-degree murder
 Still,
 her heart beat
 Remember?

“Free verse poetry is a malnourished passion that is taking the lead in her life,” emphasizes K-Lynn. Born and raised in Alberta, K-Lynn has found her home in Calgary. She is a registered social worker who enjoys kayaking, biking, and volunteering.