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RACHEL SLOTE

Scars

The scars on my body
 Are reminders of experiences
 I sometimes forget
 Actually happened to me.
 And at times
 When I undress
 And let myself look at me
 I notice the scars
 And admire the way
 They appear on my white skin.
 And as pale and thin as I am
 My scars are numerous
 From a stupid childhood
 Full of accidents and
 Repressed memories.
 From an adolescent age
 Full of loves unfulfilled
 And seemingly tragic endings.
 From an adulthood
 Full of loves and leavings
 And secrets I'm still creating.
 My scars are mine
 And perhaps one day
 I'll stand before a crowd
 And show the scars
 On my pale naked body
 And explain why the scars are there.
 Or perhaps, when I'm old
 I'll wear layers, even in the summer
 To hide the scars
 I'm too ashamed to admit are mine.

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