

## APPLES ON FIRE

*Natalie Lyalin*

My father spoke to me but did not see me. When we spoke he was watery and I was solid. In the past I planned our future. We could not meet in restaurants. In the past he was a stag and I was a reindeer, but in the future he was thunderous and I was misty. When planning our future together I said "You have to hear me" and he said "Feel this here pain" I said "This house was in the underground railroad" and he said "Whatever happened at prom?"

At prom I was crispy and my date was cusped.

We are both horned animals but we are worlds apart.