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GLASS MAGNOLIAS; NEW YEAR'S EVE

Lara Munden

Glass Magnolias

I stare again at the magnolias
cut in frosted glass. They wind
around the waiting room, devised
to distract. The outside world
is a blur, frozen.

The stems curl and tighten,
slowly constricting our energy.
A never ending pattern, defying
its design. The colourless pane
offers fleeting glimpses of clarity:

within one solitary bloom
a section of concrete courtyard;
others hold the faces of strangers,
mutated, in their various stages of growth.
I don't recognise my own.

New Year's Eve

Unnoticed
the first fat flakes
begin their soundless descent

pirouetting through the air,
summoning others

into a frenzy.

Oblivious

we dance beside them.

Vignettes in windows.

Our music

was muffled out there.

Unnecessary.

The grandfather clock smirks,

he's the only one ready

for the countdown...

We charge our glasses

then join hands

to sing it in.

A blank page, another year.

And snow settles silently

on snow.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Lara Munden graduated with a first class degree in History of Art and Film from the University of Kent in 2011 and is currently undertaking a Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Writing at the University of York (UK). For almost 10 years she has worked as content developer and writer for interpretative design consultancy Bright White Ltd, which at its heart helps to tell the stories of communities and individuals. The poems featured here are her first to be published.

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