

Keep breathing  
 She said  
 But Amy didn't listen  
 Keep believing  
 She said  
 But Jim wouldn't try  
 Stop swilling down that whiskey  
 The muse slowly sighed  
 But Janis was too drunk to hear.  
 Others used shotguns  
 Or crawled into small spaces  
 Knowing Fear  
 Was best served up cold  
 Better eaten while stoned.

**The Twenty Seven Club**

**After reading: The Beautiful and the Pointless**

**By David Orr**

Why wasn't I born – to be old enough,  
 say  
 in the 50's, early 60's,  
 to wear my hair  
 in that bouffant headband style  
 you know what I mean,  
 to be Anne Sexton,  
 comfortably married,  
 with child in tow.  
 Smoking cigarettes and swilling  
 gin at faculty parties.  
 Where,  
 because my poetry is full of sex  
 and religion, I am welcomed in.  
 Not only WELCOMED-  
 but given an honorary degree  
 in this or that-  
 allowed to walk in to  
 some class room  
 and teach  
 as if I knew, or had the slightest clue,  
 as to what  
 good poetry might be.

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The Muse said  
 Stop tampering with God  
 And all of his blessings  
 She cried  
 Get to Rehab  
 Get to Church  
 Get Help  
 You can't do this alone.  
 None of them listened.  
 None of it matters;  
 Except as fodder and food for this Poem.

Dear Reader:  
 I am here to reassure you:  
 I can not be Carol.  
 I'm not the one who broke his heart  
 Her history buried deep within his story.  
 I'm not the one,  
 Ruby lips and hot warm mouth  
 Who tied him down;  
 Hostage style  
 Marking off another trick  
 Bringing him closer to God's glory.

**I Am Not Carol**

**I AM NOT CAROL**



By Lynn Gobeille

*“being human is no excuse  
 for bad behavior  
 being a Poet  
 might buy you wiggle room”*

I am not her.  
 Not the one  
 Whose hot licked lava  
 Over took his soul;  
 Till he lost his tongue  
 Was forced to place her  
 here  
 within his newest collection.  
 (see page six)

**BLISS**  
*Poem for Carol:*

*Please recycle to a friend.*

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Origami Poems Project

**I AM NOT CAROL**

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