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Collapse

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About the Contributor (Optional)

Meghan Largent is a junior English major at Cedarville University with a minor in Creative Writing. Her goal in life is to use her art to portray ordinary events and struggles in a real and truthful way that others can empathize with and relate to. Much of her inspiration is drawn from writers like Anya Silver, e.e. cummings, Emily Dickinson, and Shakespeare. Words have always fascinated her more than anything else, but she also loves coffee, succulents, sunshine, and music.

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COLLAPSE

MEGHAN LARGENT

Maybe death isn't real
until you've felt it
like a kick to
your gut
fingernails against
cheekbones –
when you can
feel
taste
breathe
the pain
like newly shoveled dirt
filling your nostrils
burrowing under
your fingernails
a shovel-full falling
into your lungs
with every breath
every beat of your
stuttering heart.

Maybe it's all a lie.
Souls don't belong
six feet below
concave under the weight –
or maybe that's the pressure
in my chest
threatening to collapse like
the explosion of a
landmine
above mining tunnels
lanterns and screams and
blood-red petals
falling.
I never knew how those
miners' wives must feel
until I too
knew someone buried
never to be seen again.