

Yalobusha Review

Volume 32

Article 14

Winter 2021

2 Poems

Ae Hee Lee

Follow this and additional works at: <https://egrove.olemiss.edu/yr>



Part of the [Fiction Commons](#), [Nonfiction Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lee, Ae Hee (2021) "2 Poems," *Yalobusha Review*. Vol. 32 , Article 14.

Available at: <https://egrove.olemiss.edu/yr/vol32/iss2/14>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the English at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Yalobusha Review by an authorized editor of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

2 POEMS

Ae Hee Lee

Insomnia

Your parents practice a small exodus
after your birth. They tie

your feet
to a black dune, their fleecy wing
tips cover your eyes.

They offer their livers
and your liver to your neighbors

and God. Only he doesn't take them.
Instead, he chooses to coo
loud lullabies every night

over your questions.
Taste it, taste it, he sings even now.

From the corner of your mouth
the essence of miracles dribbles
thick as oil.

Self-portrait as Portrait

who are you, little i
—e.e. cummings

you, i suspect
were made tentatively: exact

assemblage of organs, emotions—
complete with little
phantom limbs,
phantom pains.

i mean, you were someone who cried
when your korean was young, asked
your father not to call you an *ingan* *human*
because *saram* *person*
was the only word you knew.

every day you invite me to join you at the edge
of every edge, and i do, my ankles
frail for your touching,

clumsy geese of three wings:
one for itself, one for the world,
one for strangeness.

you call me inconvenient,

like all beautiful things are.
and i see you

headless,
the entirety of the sky as your face

Born in South Korea and raised in Peru, AE HEE LEE received her MFA from the University of Notre Dame and is a PhD candidate in Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her poetry has been published or is forthcoming at the *Georgia Review*, *New England Review*, *Southeast Review*, *Poetry Magazine*, and elsewhere. She is the author of *Dear Bear*, (Platypus Press, 2021) and *Bedtime || Riverbed* (CompoundPress, 2017).