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RELATIONAL

A Thesis
presented in partial fulfillment of requirements
for the degree of Master of Fine Arts
in the Department of English
The University of Mississippi

by

LINDA FLYNN

December 2021

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ABSTRACT

A collection of poems.

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Relational

Dirt

In the shower, twelve years old,
I kiss the back of my hand
and imagine kissing a boy.
The water washes the kiss off
as quickly as thought,
cold streams of water
purge me of these—not fantasies
but something more removed.

There is nothing cleaner
than curling into white sheets
with wet hair
and a library book.
I push my feet
against the tension of the covers
tucked into the end of the bed
and warm the space with scissor kicks.

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VITA

Linda Flynn is a poet based in North Carolina. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English with minors in Arabic and Gender Studies from Davidson College. Afterwards, she taught in Morocco as a Fulbright Scholar. She is working towards a Master of Arts in English from the Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English.