



If Only We Could Breathe

Rosie Mellor

My favorite thing, the cold water making hairs on your arm stick up.
It's good
The cold washes off the sting of the sun
The rush of diving down, gliding through the water, making little ripples on the surface
The euphoria of being wrapped in a blanket of cold, your hair getting heavy and dragging behind you.

For a minute you're transported to another world,
A world where you can fly
A world where aliens exist
If only we could breathe in this other world,
we could stay there forever.

It's a world where we get to be birds
We get to fly and glide in the blue sky
The only difference is
The sky drowns out the troubles of our world
If only we could breathe, we could stay flying in the quiet sky forever.

I could swim forever
Fly forever
Live in the underwater world forever
It's a place where things are as simple as they can be
A world where the complications that come naturally to us, don't exist
If only we could breathe, we could stay where it's simple forever.

For a minute you're transported to another world
Until your head and your chest get tight
Until the calm escapes with the air in your lungs
Until you're forced to come back home
Back home to breathe
Back home where it's loud
Back home where it's complicated
Back home on the ground.

We could stay there forever
If only we could breathe.

VOICE

Diamond Day

Ella Glass

deep into the summer
there are mulberries to crush
i like the feeling of seeds between my teeth
i like keeping the seeds out of the valleys of my molars
lined up & dazzling

deep in the neighborhoods off of miller
i want to stay
deep in this groove of the season
where the record needle is diamond —
shouting the sounds of
polite cars over speed bumps
shoes on concrete
& girls talking over a fire,
they take off their racing numbers