# A Temporary Love Letter • Christian Montealegre

I feel a stunning gravitational pull towards you:
Smooth sounds between español e ingles
Go between us.

I feel defenseless to your insinuations,
I want to crack myself open like a brown egg.

I cannot blame my intrepid infatuations
I cannot tame them
I can only let them run around the room
til they get tired and they're panting
& fall asleep again.

I tiptoe around them without triggering them awake
pulling their weight against the shaking ground,
After all,
a broken, upset heart
is a dangerous pit.

I hold my breath and keep silent.

I think about how the politics of love
can be lousy games
of power and control-
Miscalculations that turn into annoyances
for thin glass egos.

I feel ravenous,
Misguided by my controlling heart
I think aloud: *I want him now- I want him back- I want him again.*

I want him now,
despite my cynicism to be accountable,
despite my rooted stubbornness
which is starting to rot deep in the soil.

I cannot stick my finger into the cassette and rewind the past
and play a new version in the stereo
just like I cannot drive forward
looking only through the rearview mirror.

Feeling Love has delivered conundrums
that tangled me
like exhausted chewed gum
played around in my fingers.

*Alone together*
from Chet baker plays on the radio

"Love cuts deep" drifting into longing

Looks can be deceiving
Vampires are kinda sexy
until they tell you about their loneliness

Born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, I moved to the United States when I was 17 years old after finishing high school, arriving to Los Angeles to start a new life. I went to Santa Monica College & transferred to UCDavis, graduating with a double major in Communications & Spanish Literature. Poetry was a natural calling inspired by reading through my mother's poem diary when I was a child. As a language enthusiast, I dived into broadcasting, film post production, translation and interpreting work in Spanish and English, moving into project management roles for digital content operations for major studios. I enjoy writing poetry in my free time and aspire one day to publish my work.