How to Match the Sky

The sky, like raw, ruddy bones over back-lit snow, speaks in tiny sparks—
scarlet pin pricks resurrecting
feathers over campfire.

The boy bathes in fear of her mouth.
Upon letting go, paper split his lips.

Now he hums to the wind, asking with a shield,
in this exhausted menagerie of voices—
bending like metal necks in fire, stretching to be seen.

Kendall Hoeft

Kendall graduated from the University of Tampa's Creative Writing M.F.A. program. She currently teaches writing and speech courses for FIDM. Kendall was awarded the 2nd place prize in the 2020 Stephen A DiBiase Poetry Contest and was a Semifinalist in the 2019 Hillary Gravendyk Prize poetry book competition. Her recent poetry can be viewed in Bad Pony Magazine, Patient Sounds, Occulum, Anti-Heroin Chic, Leveler, and Driftwood Press.