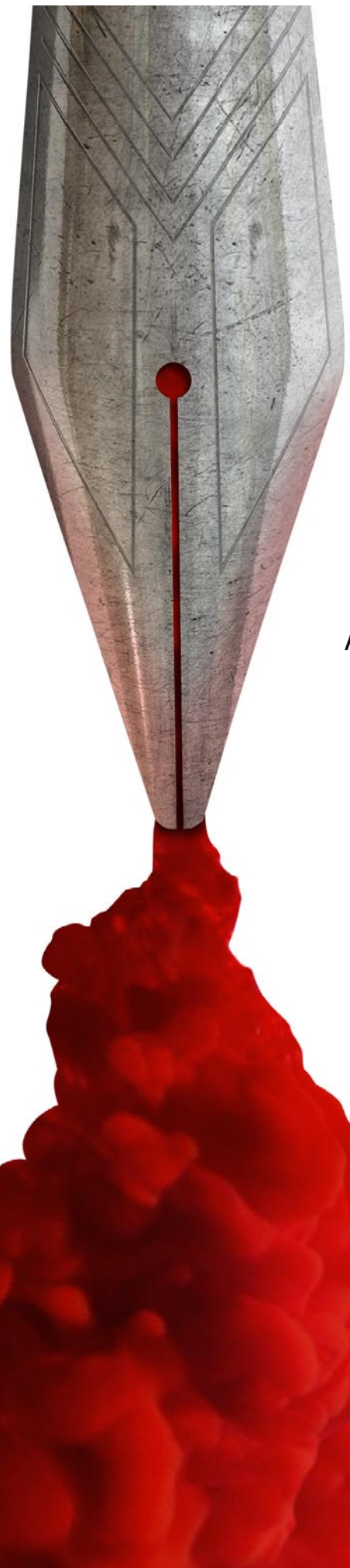
A Poet's Joy

Jennifer Elise Wang



Alone at my desk
With Keats and Dickinson in mind,
I invoke the Muses and Graces:
Come transform these bottled emotions
Into something beautiful.
My pen touches the paper,
And I feel the catharsis.
Let my hatred tear the pages
As curses unsaid become eloquent metaphors;
Let my sorrow flow through the ink
Like the tears I never cried—
Until nothing is left of my burning rage
Except the embers of my words.
I kill my self-loathing
With pride in this masterpiece.
Poe and Plath knew the pain and pleasure
Of a poet's art:
In sadness and anger is bliss.

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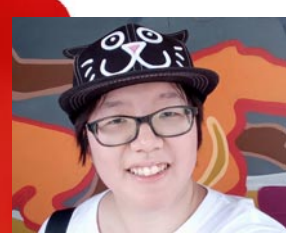
Jennifer Elise Wang (she/they) is a non-binary femme in STEM from Dallas, Texas. When she's not doing neuroscience research, she enjoys writing, dancing, and learning how to skateboard and snowboard. She has been published in New Verse News, FERAL, and Southern Arizona Press. You can find her at www.facebook.com/jeniversewritings and @JeniverseAbr on Twitter.