

Harmony Gonzalez

Emergency

The first time I called the police on my parents
I had just turned 11 years old.

It was a June night and amongst the flashing siren
lights, was the glow of fireflies in the night sky.

Dad found out mom was cheating and turned her
Flip phone into a pile of plastic.

That night we packed a bag and moved in with
Grandma. I swear I grew up that day.

The abuse carried over after every emergency
Masked in relentless phone calls and unhinged threats.

An order of protection cannot stop the inevitable.
After years of hate they found love in each other, again.

If two people are meant to be, then tell me,
Why does each fight turn into an emergency?



Harmony Gonzalez is a recent Columbia College graduate from the poetry undergraduate program. As a Chicago native, she has always been inspired to make a positive impact on her community. Aside from writing poetry, she is a freelance journalist and advocate for the nonprofit organization SaveMoneySaveLife Foundation based in the South Side of Chicago. She is inspired by travel and community, looking at each day as a new opportunity for reflection and growth. As a musician she is constantly finding a new way to transcend her voice off of the page and into the cadence of her ever-growing narrative.