

The State Is Not My Lover

Coraline James Seksinsky

2025

if it dies I will not shed a tear.
I don't really know her or what she
wants from me,
the men who made her, or how I'm
supposed to live here-
sweltering in a chaos
that ain't for my
sake.

Unwilling as I am to bear the responsibility
of accumulated force.

.
Collective destiny can only be spread
so thin.
Before I reach for the knife-
To cut off the other twisted wing
and plummet
all the way back to the sweet earth.

.
They're flying us somewhere
and I did not elect to go right into the mad eye of
the sun

.
In The State my momma don't love me-

I am never enough

Laying down looking at the clouds

certain of my calculus that to survive

here would

cost me bails of my dignity

an amount of my humanity that I could not do to expel

Coraline James Seksinsky is a musician, writer, and begrudging worker who's lived the vast majority of her life in Cheshire County, New Hampshire. Currently, she resides in middle Tennessee with her boyfriend in an old farmhouse.

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