

Kindling

The details are as yet unclear
 as to the how and where—

how to arrange the bones
 with their ends touching like so,

and exactly where to conjure
 the handful of dark purple

heart—and the timing of it.
 See, the parts won't fit

like we were taught. The cloud
 folds into a box without

assistance, cools smooth and heavy
 like milk glass in the child's head.

We should probably fill
 the rest in beneath it until

it looks presentable, add meat
 to the rough frame we've made,

but I also sort of like him this way—
 loose and preliminary

in his conception, a sketch
 of slender branches

caught in a river eddy
 on their way elsewhere. Better,

maybe, to leave him like this,
 unfeeling and questionless.

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Featured on Wednesday April 6, 2016

Featured Poet

Sarah Rose Nordgren

Sarah Rose Nordgren is the author of *Best Bones* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2014), winner of the 2013 Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize. Her poems have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *AGNI*, *The Iowa Review*, *Pleiades*, *The Harvard Review*, *Best New Poets 2011*, and others. A two-time fellowship recipient from the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, she has also received support from the Breadloaf Writers Conference, The Ohio Arts Council, and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. For more information, visit sarahrosenordgren.com.

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Recently recognized in *Best of the Net*, *Best New Poets*, *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*, and NPR, among others, the journal has featured the voices of Dorianne Laux, Alex Dimitrov, Laura Kasischke, Terrance Hayes, Lydia Millet, Ellen Bass, NoViolet Bulawayo, Diane Glancy, Ned Vizzini, and beyond.

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