

reassurance seems to be late

by: amira em



Image description: author stands in the street taking a photo of her reflection. Beside the mirror are various green, pink, and orange flowers.

poetry

troubled

Hyenas at night, eating garbage under the stars
Sore knees waiting for God on Persian rugs
Childhood bleeds away
I can't feel my own presence
Just guilt
Prayers wrap around my head
Desperate to be fixed
A religious hand rests on my shoulders
Awaiting comfort
Reassurance seems to be late.
The soul never sleeps
Even when it should

when bottles break.

When bottles break
Wine spills
When hands are thrown
They drag
Heavy
When the lights turn on
Cockroaches run

push pins

My life was a map
She was a Push Pin called trauma
Now lost
My map has no borders
My trauma has no source
Where do I go from here?

a short story(s)

1. I thought it was my fault. That I made her “sick” and unhappy. It’s what she would say.
2. The sirens came. All I could think about was how much my teeth were hurting.
3. Documents. Files. Documents. Files. Signatures. After so many documents I finally saw it. Waiting for me. The speculation. The diagnosis.
4. My life was put in reverse and I had to watch it all over again. Alone.
5. It all hurts more than before.
6. If only I knew then....
7. Depression and Bipolar disorder are now vivid curtains that hang in front of my past.
8. Nothing is the same.
9. Now I take long walks in my head to as far back as I can. When I come back it is always the same question.
10. What does it mean to be me?

Photos

a short story in
pictures...anxiety.



Image description: looking downward
at a pile dried leaves.
Location: University of Toronto



Image description: a messy coffee
cup sits on a wood bench.
Location: University of Toronto



Image description: a coffee cup sits between two feet above a pile of dried leaves. Blurry image.
Location: University of Toronto

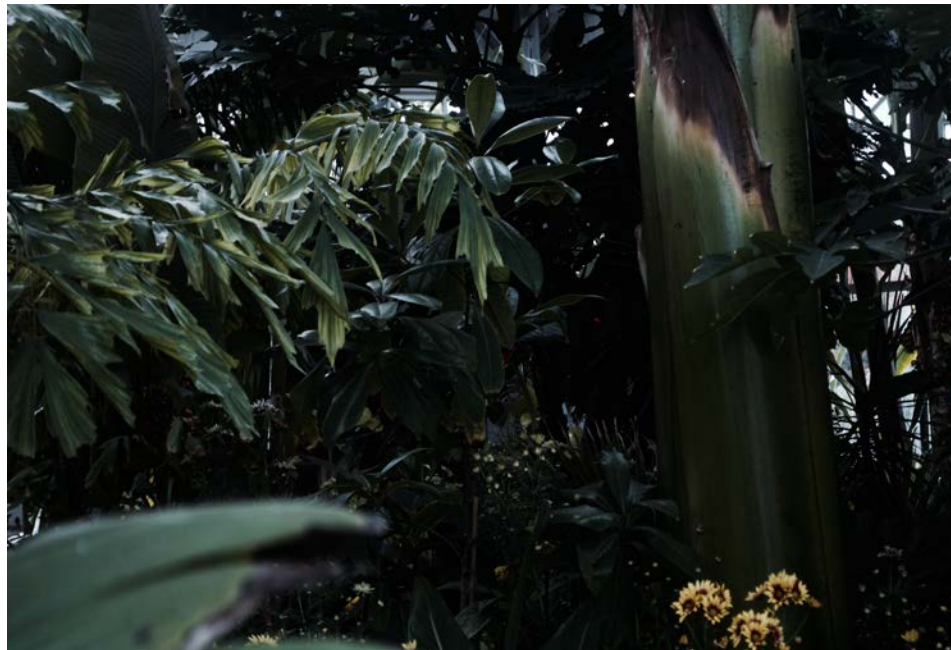


Image description: looking at various plants in a greenhouse
Location: Allan Gardens



Image description: close-up of author's hand resting on grass and dirt.

Location: University of Toronto



Image Description:
A map of London, England.
Close-up on –Westminster
Abbey and House of
Parliament



Image description: Map of Somalia but the map is labelled as colonized Somalia a.k.a. Italian Somaliland

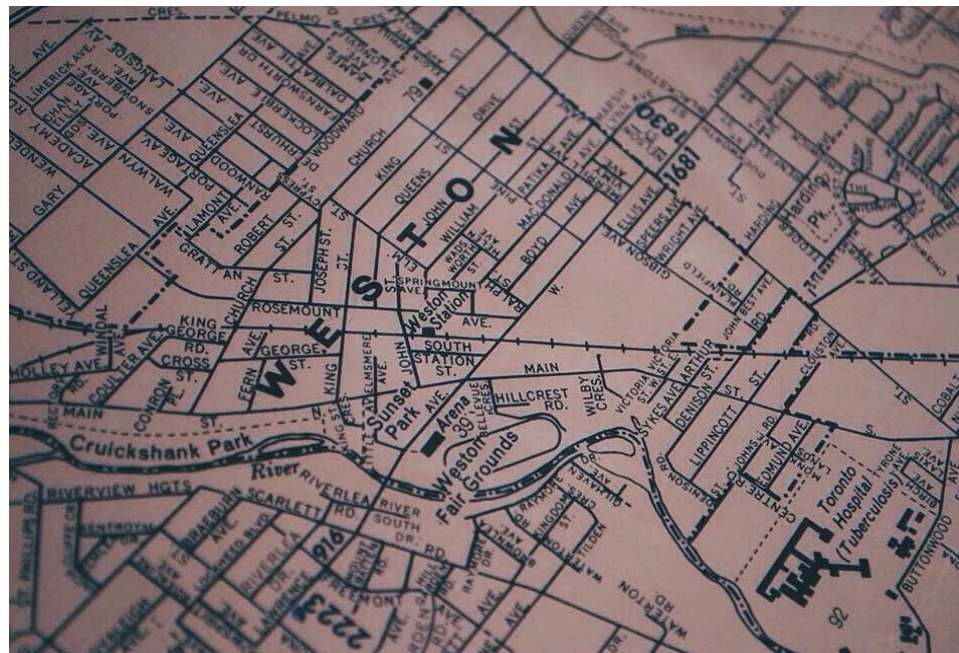


Image description: Map Weston, Toronto. Close-up on Weston Rd. and Lawrence Ave.

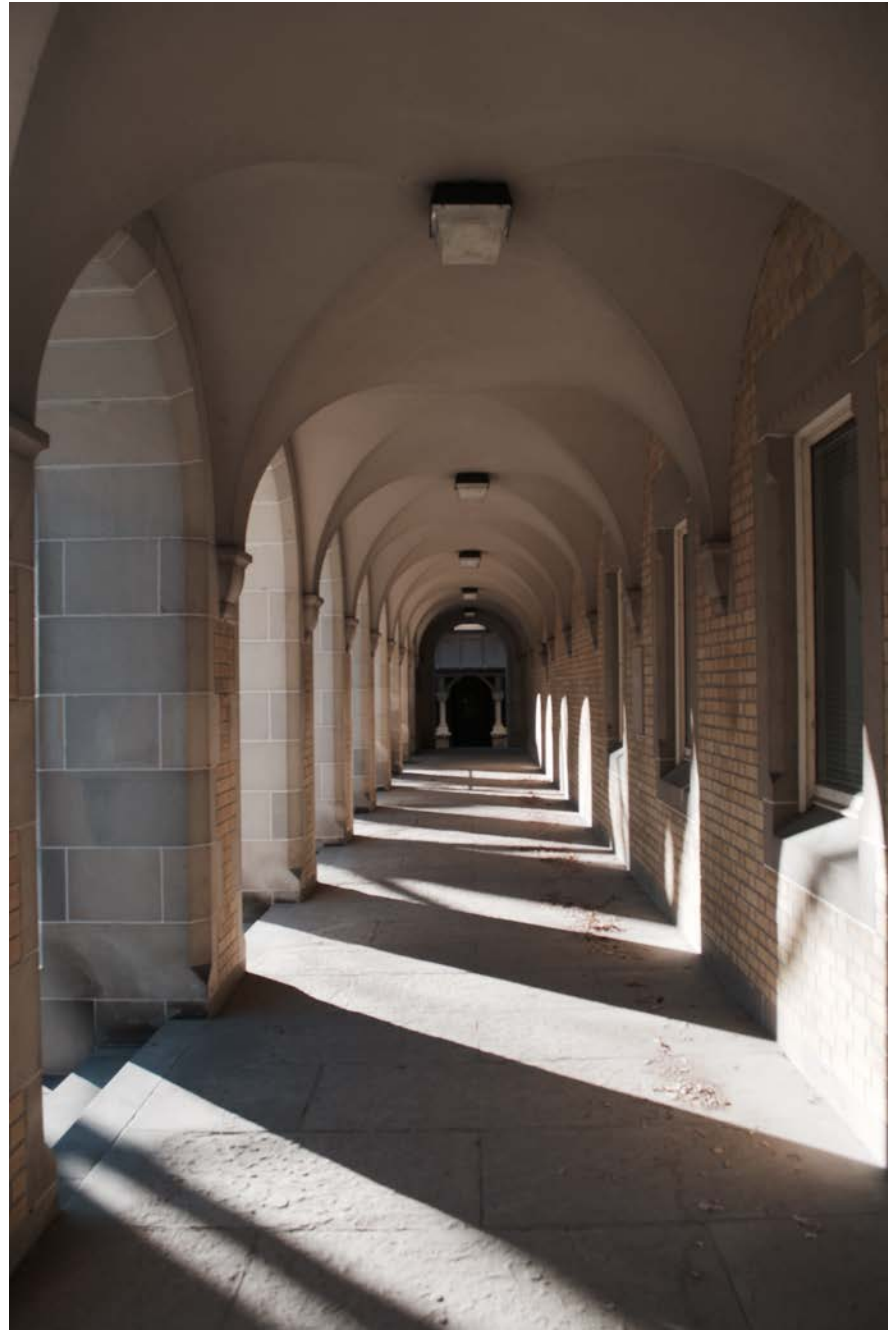


Image description: University College outdoor hallway. Arched ceiling and entryways.