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Sokol High School Literary Awards

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# Decision

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# Decision

The cold of the metal bed  
swam through the thin paper sheet.

The nurse returned, sat back on her stool  
and filled the room with a loud, long squeak.

The stool swiveled my way,  
my ears screamed for silence.  
Instead she bit her lip  
and told me I was pregnant.

It was the first time I had ever felt  
nothing.

No urge to blink.

To breathe.

I watched as hot black tar  
slipped from her lips.

When I realized they were words

I focused in on them

*Menstrual extraction*

I was confused

*“An abortion, honey”*

Clarified.

Even more confused now,

I thought, should I be offended?

As I walked home pressure raced  
to the roof of my head.  
Then to my legs and they became weak.  
Mom came in and sat next to me.

Her closeness alone was enough to fill my nose  
with the burning sensation that triggered the tears  
The second her hand touched my back  
the first tear fell.

From then on they wouldn't stop.  
I wouldn't cry that hard again  
until later in life when she left the world.

After trying to console me  
She finally said,  
“you're pregnant aren't you?”  
Life would never be the same.

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