

1. What made you choose this piece for pulp MAG?

This is the first piece I wrote that didn't feel juvenile. Grappling with emotional complexity in writing (especially in autofiction) can be daunting, but it is essential in creating what I understand as *authentic* art. I've been searching for that authenticity in my writing for a long time now, and this piece feels like the beginning of that.

2. Is there anything in particular that you're proud of about this piece, or that you learned while creating it?

I'm quite proud of the ending of "Turning Blue" when it changes to the future tense, mostly because the reader has no idea if those events will actually take place or if it is the narrator's wishful thinking. Depending on the reader—let's say, a pessimist or an optimist—the story has two different endings: one happy and one uncertain. As an author, there's something gratifying in withholding a simple happy ending.

3. Where did your inspiration for this piece come from? What is its "story"?

"Turning Blue" is the result of my experiences living and loving in Vancouver. My relationship to Vancouver is similar to the relationship represented in the story: full of love but not without complexity.

4. What does your creative process or practice usually look like?

I like to start a short story with a setting. I'll usually write pages of in-depth description of a place until I run into a character, and when I run into a character, I run into their problems. The way I'm describing this is making the process sound very simple. I swear it's not. It usually takes me about 5 drafts until I have a story that I can bear to read back to myself.

5. How long have you been creative?

I wrote my first story at age four on the floor of my grandmother's living room. It was about a princess who gets kidnapped and needs to be saved by her prince (groundbreaking, I know). I wrote several versions of this story where the only difference was the nature of the trap that the princess was imprisoned in. It seems I was going through a phase of cynicism at age four.

5. Do you plan on continuing your creative pursuits into the future? If so, what does the next project look like for you?

I'm currently working on another piece of autofiction that I'm hoping to get published. It is inspired by Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts* and Annie Ernaux's *Simple Passion*, which is to say it is attempting to blend together a raw and internal account of a relationship, gender politics, and theories from thinkers like Kant and Plato. It may be a long time until it feels complete, but I'm feeling very good about it. Look out for it!