

Poems

**Office Work**

I love being in the office  
in the early morning  
The sound of silence  
carries far & wide  
peace is a state of  
mind  
and it stays with me  
even as the  
chatter begins  
the whispers  
the laughs  
they all turn to white

noise

as I plug in  
Iron & Wine.  
-Rose Hanlon

**Partial Truths**

It's not you it's me...  
I'm sure everyone would hate to be  
on the receiving end.

Well, it is you, which is partially true,  
but I won't tell you that.

You just didn't make the list  
of people I want to invest my time in.

You seem nice,  
but you didn't win the  
lottery ticket.

Some other girl will award you her time,  
but not this girl.

Sorry not sorry.

-Rose Hanlon

### **Safety First**

Shoot down  
never around

This isn't a carousel  
you don't go around and around

Set your sight  
on the bullseye  
one eye open  
and you'll be right

-Rose Hanlon

### **Brain on Fire**

Why am I filled with dread  
each night?

It's as if I am made of lead  
too heavy to make a move

I wonder if I'll ever feel light.

I feel something rise up in me

And I wonder if this is right

to move on

but will I ever really forget our time?

Will I be stuck in the past forever?

I miss when it was just us.

Why is it that when I want to sleep

I can't

and

When I need to sleep

I don't want to?

-Rose Hanlon

## **2Fish by Jhene Aiko Efurce Chilombo**

### **20Fish**

I was born knowing

exactly where I'm going

in the city of

lost angels

where people travel

to settle down into

their fantasy webs

that are tangled

I am from a land  
where everyone comes  
to pretend to be  
something they dream up

While me and my fellow homeschooled kids  
pray to the stars to be beamed up

**A Quiver from head to toes**

Am I trembling for you

or

because I am

hungry?

-Rose Hanlon

**Waiting & then poof!**

Why did my heart freeze

and then

pitter-patter

When I saw your message?

-Rose Hanlon

**Book: The Princess Saves herself in this one by Amanda Lovelace**

There came

A time

when  
poetry  
showed me  
how to  
bleed  
without  
the demand  
of blood.  
*-my most loyal lover*

I used to think  
I was broken

because I never once  
spent my  
daydreams

plucking  
swollen pomegranates  
from  
someone else's tree

*-Then I learned that  
society is broken, not me*

You may  
not have left

(many) bruises  
on my skin,  
but you left giant  
blackening bruises  
all over  
my soul.

*-I still wonder who I would have been.*

I never  
expected  
Death  
to be my most  
faithful companion,  
but she is  
the only one  
who will come  
without  
having to be  
asked.

*-the only one who will never leave.*

I have  
so much love  
to give,  
but no one  
ever wants  
it.

*-a cup overfilled*

**Worth it to wait**

We were young and  
impressionable  
Make that me---being naïve

I felt like a sea shell  
along the sandy waters.  
Always hidden.  
Just when the sun touches me,  
I'm pulled back  
under by the water.

Waiting...

Waiting...

Waiting...

For someone to find me.

Clean me off  
and declare  
the treasure they've  
found.

You looked at me  
with stars in your eyes  
like I was a rare gem

-or a saint  
that could do no wrong.

But the truth always comes out,  
it was surface level.  
On another level I felt worshipped  
but it is not I who should  
be revered.  
I am only human.

That pressure to be the perfect  
person is an impossible weight  
to carry.

Thanks, but I'll wait for  
God's best.

-Rose Hanlon