

Molly King
Phillips Academy, Grade 12

Hypotheses

She said

I've noticed you don't repeat yourself
more than twice, when asked
and I figure it's because
if they don't hear you the second time
they won't hear you at all
it's like
writing a word
so many times that you convince yourself it's spelled wrong
and you can't find the correct way anymore.

I said

it's kind of like that.

She said

I've noticed you never ask questions
and don't look certain people in the eye
it's like
forcing three lines of words
into the last line of paper
because it's more effort to stand up
and get a new sheet.

I said

it's kind of like that
kind of.

She said

I noticed you watch the door for his shadow
every night
and he never comes
it's like
scratching marks
in firework patterns
on the corner of the page
when ink won't come out
and you know it's run dry.

I said

it's more like swimming
on the first day of fall
when you smell fear in the air
and the smoke from burning leaves
gives each tree a halo
it's like that

I said

it's more like that.