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creatively maladjusted

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{Photo via [pinterest.com](#)}

By Michelle White.

In the name of what

Do we act this way

How come we must

Play the games we play

What you got on the side
What we all have to hide
I've been left so mystified
By those who seemed true, but they lied
Even after I really tried
Trusting we all come from the divine
What is it that comes from behind
Or is it deep inside
To take over our mind's eye
Subtly influencing our lives
We doubt our access unless we're high
We cling to the moment, just to get by
But it's slipping away all the while
A losing battle against time and trial
So we subsist and maintain denial
Marching off the cliff single file
As someone once put, robot-lemming-style.

The roots were what fortified, the old
Maybe we need to look down to be in their soles
To see the footprints untold
As their stories unfold
And wind their way across the desert
Everyone has the capacity to hear it
But so few listen
Preferring images, vestiges of visages
Fragmented, shot rapid-fire

Meant to retain as little as possible
It's all part of the design
A kaleidoscope set in rewind
To trip over, stumble through and say goodbye
Because for all that we find
It blows away along the ride
And we're left staring out the side
Tiny furrows in our cheeks from tears we've cried
Like the surf pounding the boulder smooth again
After it fell and cracked and splintered open wide
Raw to the world and the salt and the wound
Ethereal tears filling up a monsoon
Relentless cycles churning within the earth
As we carve a place within its comforting girth.



Michelle White is a writer, editor, creative collaborator and occasional poet who delights in discovering just how big and how small the world can be. She has worked for travel publications, local government and information technology, and currently serves as Communications Associate for Caravan to Class, a nonprofit working to advance literacy in the Malian Sahara. She is inspired by music, Yoga, getting off the beaten path, cultural *mélanges*, the sky and all its personalities, the humor of children, and the smell of tomato plants. Michelle holds a Bachelor's degree in English from UCLA and a lifetime goal of visiting all seven continents.

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