

POETRY | SPRING 2021

## It Was a Time

By Xanthia Tucker

It was a time  
without noses or mouths.  
Chins and cheeks  
belonged only to those we  
knew before all this  
happened – until  
in slips of intimacy  
nostrils,  
lips,  
teeth,  
moustache!  
would flash for a split  
sip, overwhelming  
and surprising me  
always. Now faces  
are too much and never  
what I expect. And were  
people's eyes  
always this  
beautiful?

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**Xanthia Tucker is a Medicine-Pediatrics resident at the University of Michigan. Before deciding to become a doctor, she studied comparative literature, theater and creative writing at Harvard College. She dreams of a humanistic and artistic career in medicine, inspired by her childhood idol, William Carlos Williams, and her grandmother, a painter. She also loves to sing, cook, hike and admire her adolescent cats, Pico and Elio.**

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