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The Playground: A Myth

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CONCRETE SKY

Alexander Connell

My hand slipped and dropped
A bottle onto the slanted pavement which
Impedingly began to leak through
A now cracked cap. Reaching
To retrieve it, my eyes caught
The image which was now being
Drown across the ground by invisible
Fingers of the wind into lines who
Branched off of each other as parts of
Them are stolen by rogue gusts. A few
More daring fingers flick away a dozen
Tiny droplets who land in the next tile
To alone, dot a concrete sky above
A liquid forest acting as beacons towards
Which the fingers will blow wishing
To catch something beyond the current
Slab. Free of confinement and open to the sky.

THE PLAYGROUND: A MYTH

Saffyre Falkenberg

Kronos and Rhea drop their brood off for
the first day of school, waving goodbye as
the little gods and goddesses enter the classroom.

Zeus makes friends with all the little girls.
He throws stormy tantrums when things don't
go his way.

Little Hera is jealous of the attention Zeus gives
the other girls. She wants Zeus to only play house
with her.

Poseidon is in charge of feeding the class's pet fish.
He always fights with his brother, Zeus, even though
he never wins.

The teacher is concerned about Hades, since all he does
is draw pictures of people getting killed. She will call
his parents in for a meeting.

Ares likes to kick sand in the other kids' faces and
push them down. Though he always seems to
be in a fight, the teacher never notices.

Athena sits in the corner and reads storybooks
most of the day. When Arachne says she can
color the best, Athena puts a spider down her shirt.

Apollo blows on the recorder all day long to impress
the little girls. They think he's gross and hide
behind the trees in the playground.

His twin sister, Artemis, pays him no mind.
Declaring that all the boys have cooties, she catches
bugs on the playground with her band of friends.

**MY DUTY** Mustaffa Shahid

Hermes never gets caught passing notes in class. It must be his magic shoes. He climbs the tallest tree in the playground and jumps off, believing he could fly.

Demeter is in charge of snack time, passing out juice and crackers to everyone. She won't give any to Hades though.

Dionysus drinks all the grape juice boxes. He's the youngest in the class, but that doesn't seem to bother anyone.

Hephaestus only likes to play with Legos. He's got a crush on Aphrodite, even though she'd never go for a kid like him.

Aphrodite is the new girl at school. She marries Hephaestus on the playground during recess, though she's smooching Ares behind the slide by lunchtime.

Kronos and Rhea pick them up from school, trying to ignore all the squabbling in the backseat as they head home to Olympus.