

# Forces

---

Volume 2020

Article 11

---

5-1-2020

## Backburner Friend

Starlit D.S. Taie

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces>

---

### Recommended Citation

Taie, Starlit D.S. (2020) "Backburner Friend," *Forces*: Vol. 2020 , Article 11.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces/vol2020/iss1/11>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Collin. It has been accepted for inclusion in Forces by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Collin. For more information, please contact [mtomlin@collin.edu](mailto:mtomlin@collin.edu).

## Backburner Friend

Starlit D.S. Taie

I found out that night that  
You'd broken up with your boyfriend  
Of three years  
Through a text message  
Coupled with the words  
'I thought I told you  
...wait  
Maybe I told [REDACTED] ...'

It's fine  
I'll say that over and over  
Eventually it will be  
Your second best friend  
Can wait to be your counselor  
When you're ready

Somehow I leap the line between  
Heinously selfish and  
Astoundingly selfless  
Yet somehow  
I can never cross the line to  
Best friend

You can't shatter a person better  
After three years  
Than starting with the sentence  
'Oh? I didn't tell you?'  
When you are the only person  
I do tell

In my selfishness I'll wonder  
Am I not good enough for you?  
Did I mess it up somehow  
Say the wrong thing that other time  
How can I fix it  
How can I change for you  
How can I be  
You best  
Friend?

In my healing  
Three years later  
I play with this idea  
Perhaps...  
It's not my question to ask?

Somewhere in the moments  
Someone said  
'If it lasts 7 years  
It'll last forever'  
But somewhere after 7 years  
I'm still struggling  
With my texts being left  
Not on read  
But delivered

The 7 years  
Still plays on my brain  
And I wonder why  
It hasn't gotten better

But 7 years  
Has played on my brain  
And I think  
Why would it get better?

It's only taken  
7 years to realize  
It's not me who is the  
Backburner friend  
But you  
Who has backburner friends

7 years to realize  
That there is no  
'You and Me'  
Only  
'You and Us'  
  
If asked  
What my favorite color is  
You probably couldn't guess  
Yet  
I could recite your  
Top 10 favorite colors  
Backwards and forwards  
Because you forgot you told me  
  
Twice.