

Fall 2019

## Stop Consonant

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### Recommended Citation

Karbin, Elisa (2019) "Stop Consonant," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 90 , Article 11.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss90/11>

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ELISA KARBIN

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## STOP CONSONANT

I, having walked myself through the work  
of mapping this disappointing Mobius figure  
eight of skin & skin & skin, arrive nightly  
at the juncture of the question mark's dark  
hook—the meaning of me, blinking through  
the crave of the bursting fricative woman  
I meant to become—& move embolismic  
through the unlit house, baiting the oil-moon  
to leave its stain. As if some kind of cocktail  
napkin, my body, all its useless flam & flesh,  
is only meant to absorb & glut, or, like some  
weatherclock, some dumb & frightful socialite,  
announce *it is cold; he is nice; it is good; he seemed nice*  
*it got late & I shouldn't have* but couldn't not.