

Two Photos from *What Should Be Never Is*

Caius Buran

Artist's Statement

Art is, in simple terms, created work that elicits emotion. A museum sculpture filled with fetid water and waste, an empty shopping cart abandoned on a bike path, an open recliner near a parking lot, fading street art tucked behind a trash can in a rain-damp alley, and a shot taken a moment too late to capture a vivid streak of lightning—all of these images are dissatisfying to the desire for clean, sensical art that immortalises the idealized, the pleasing, and the comfortable. Photography is not synonymous with “picture perfect.” The emotion tackled in this collection, *What Should Be Never Is*, is disappointment.

Creature Comfort



The Promised Land



Caius Buran is a McNair scholar pursuing a bachelor of arts in English and certificates in creative writing and classical studies at the University of North Dakota. His free time is spent starring on and creating for *9mm Retirement Radio*, an actual-play podcast, and doting on his dog, two cats, and ball python.