

Sidewalk Flower

Charles Henry

Charles Henry is a second semester English M.A. student at UND, with interests in composition theory, sociolinguistics, and the early modern and medieval British periods. He received his undergraduate in English and Education at West Liberty University, where he also began his creative writing journey. His writings often deal with exploring the underside of the expected experience of language and examining the shifting forms and conventions of writing. Charles has lived all over the eastern U.S., originally growing up on a farm in the Ohio valley, and he enjoys bringing those experiences into his writing.

Stupid, stupid, stupid
 sidewalk flower.
 Can't you see this is a place for people?
 things that walk.
 Not for stringy little things that just creep up
 when I'm not looking.
 Can't you tell, I've clearly put a sidewalk here?
 and there, and there, and there.
 So that we people could always be safe
 from growing little things.
 You work so hard, just to obscure my view.
 why shouldn't I just pluck you?

Hello, hello, hello
 sidewalk walker.
 It appears you've placed so much,
 without much care.
 A place to guide you from here to there.
 you're right,
 I could've grown nearly anywhere
 with ease.
 And it is true it is much harder to grow here
 or there, or there, or there.

But I knew that if I grew right here,
that you and me,
Would have a friend every day to see.