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Literary Guillotine

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The Literary Guillotine

She's a punk rocker dressed in all black, a short cut off t-shirt, and fishnet stockings. Her slender index finger cut from new sharp guitar strings searches into her wallet to get two quarters and matching pennies. She sticks the receipt in the new book and drives away in her 1987 Buick Le Sabre, quickly emerging with the California heat. She never reads it, and gladly returns it for 3.50, only half the original price. She needs the money to buy her favorite guitar picks, the ones with the white skull. She imagines holding them in her hands, it's what she lives for.

And I am none of those things, but I smile and think of Santa Cruz. I imagine going 70 while kissing the thick August humidity, as the horizon turns into a canvas painted with tropical fruits. I hold what was once hers, and we are somehow touching.

Diamond Sankey '06