

2022

## Near Misses, Almost Lover

Colleen Boyle  
*Denison University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Boyle, Colleen (2022) "Near Misses, Almost Lover," *Exile*: Vol. 68: No. 1, Article 20.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile/vol68/iss1/20>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the English at Denison Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Exile by an authorized editor of Denison Digital Commons.

Near Misses, Almost Lover

Colleen Boyle

---

Cupid's leather quiver is almost desolate,  
Titanium arrows scattered through the world.  
Moss engulfs love's first arrow, a passionate  
Attempt from years ago lodged in the furled  
Root at the bottom of the apple tree where  
You and I carved our names in a heart  
And I brushed your lips with my thumb  
As you dozed off to sleep in my embrace.  
Another arrow sits by 3<sup>rd</sup> and Main  
Outside your apartment on the fire escape  
Where we'd drink wine and talk philosophy  
with the smell of propane wafting over the busy city.

Cupid draws the last arrow and asks for my target. I picture you  
now, across the world. I beg we will be together again.