

2022

## morning commute

Zoe Petterson  
*Denison University*

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



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Petterson, Zoe (2022) "morning commute," *Exile*: Vol. 68: No. 1, Article 32.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile/vol68/iss1/32>

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.

morning commute

Zoe Pettersen

---

across the aisle, the wrinkled woman's needles  
tap a sweet staccato as she knits,  
her husband patiently holding the yarn;

next to me, a man licks his thumb,  
turns the page—  
paper whispers like leaves.

the train rocks and sways  
but the clatters keep me  
from finding balance.

i sample my coffee, and  
the heat prickles my hand  
through the recycled  
cardboard sleeve—  
uncomfortable

but we take what warmth we can.