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## Fags on the Natchez

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Fags on the Natchez  
Sofia Monteleone

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We are plucked straight  
from summer camps,  
kissed by ash-caked,  
wrinkled lips, drained  
of breath, of use, and  
spit into the road of marsh-  
growth and ground gravel.  
Broken, back-first,  
under boot heel, tire,  
leather, rubber, suede,  
preachers, parents,  
sunday school sermons,  
middle school boys,  
and family friends,  
to suffocate the spark.  
The white-and-yellow  
bodied, nicotine-stinking  
eyesores we are; piled up,  
denied, degraded, like  
all the other little eyesores  
you like to wish away.  
You crave us. You crave  
the power of stamping us out.  
And yet, from your insides  
we will blister, and from  
your hatred we will burn.