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July 2014

## Everything Survives by Dividing

Cameron Decker

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### Recommended Citation

Decker, Cameron (2014) "Everything Survives by Dividing," *The Laureate*: Vol. 11 , Article 15.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/laureate/vol11/iss1/15>

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# EVERYTHING SURVIVES BY DIVIDING

*by Cameron Decker*

Will you please stop slipping  
into something more comfortable?  
I can't stop ironing my work clothes.

When I talk about masks, I'm not  
referring to the body and its attachments,  
just jars of buttons and how we sort them.

The anteater is both family man and  
local terrorist. Green beans like to dress up  
in nice suits and dream about life after death.

If I am to be the executioner of a stubbed toe,  
I'm also the giggling observer of a pain I refuse  
to accept as my own.

This is what it means to live forever:  
You light each candle with another candle and soon  
you have a full cake in all its frosted glory,

your surrounding family frozen on an inhale,  
everyone secretly hoping you don't have  
the lungs to blow them out all at once.

