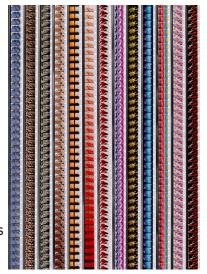
## **Shutter Shutter Shutter**

Shutter Shutter
I wake to a cold room
Blinds shut to keep out any light
My body aches while my eyes throb
I blink once twice, three times
I try to blink away the pain
The pain in my body and the pain in my heart
I try to finc comfort in the bed and the fluffy pillows
But this room no matter how long ive been here
Isnt home to me
It hasnt been for a while

Shutter Shutter Shutter I run through a field of tall grass Laughing while i try and fiddle with my film camera I feel this joy everywhere Im laughing with no intention of stopping There is a voice in my head saying "Capture this, the feeling wont last" I feel the ache in my heart start to grow The smile on my face start to falter But my stride does not break The grip on my camera tightens I have to outrun this feeling The heavy weather has come to cover the sun I click on the big button to capture this moment Red, blue, and yellow color flash through the lens Heading straight to my memory

Shutter Shutter
Red, Blue, Yellow
The colors imbedded into my camera
The colors have not faded or gone grey
Maybe the happiness within myself has
But the laughing and the tall grass are still alive
They are alive with every shutter of my camera
It captures time into a still moment
I find a stack of shiny paper hidden away
Reflections of a better time shuffling through my hands
I can cradle my happiness in my hands



-Mackenzie Hayes

Lake Newton The Dailies (03), 2024