


October 2015

Stop

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Recommended Citation

Kage, Stormy (2015) "Stop," *Pamoja*: Vol. 5 : No. 1 , Article 8.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/pamoja/vol5/iss1/8>

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STOP

Stormy Kage

Monsters don't hide under her bed anymore. He debuts on top of it. When the moon shines only she is there to witness the build-up of fur on human fingertips, pinching her lips shut, and canines. Claws don't gently unhook bra straps, like her high school darling, they dig for blood as red as octagonal street signs-not hearts or first times. They say for what it's worth, she should not be a walking raven on the darkened side of the street. No one will believe her when she says they are no longer in hiding. Except for maybe her father, who, whenever she is telling, checks under the mattress with a shotgun to get them, like a spider, she stares at on the ceiling.