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Stages of Suzanne

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Stages of Suzanne

Jacy Seltzer

When you left me again that day last fall I went through the five stages of grief- no, to clarify, the stages of Suzanne as my therapist so kindly put it, stages that included sobbing on the floor when your scent finally left out the door, going through your things with mascara staining my cheeks, drinking half a bottle finally realizing that I hated alcohol, getting sick on Ben and Jerry's Cherry Garcia, knocking down a whole wall to "air things out"- hell it was getting very claustrophobic- buying a sexy second-hand red dress to realize only later it had a stain on it, talking to a priest on a rainy Sunday when I'm not even Catholic, knitting sweaters for a new kitten that I ended up getting rid of, going on two blind dates that ended with me paying for the meal, finally uncapping my mascara and lipstick and heating up my curling iron, putting on the red dress- and on that summer day when you returned with a post card in hand I put it with the others, gave you a peck on the cheek, and felt nothing.