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2022

## **mon coeur veut éclater**

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*University of Southern Mississippi*

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### **Recommended Citation**

Kelly, Maggie, "mon coeur veut éclater" (2022). *Race, Gender, and Sexuality Symposium*. 14.  
<https://aquila.usm.edu/rgss/14>

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*mon coeur veut éclater* by Maggie Kelly (she/her)

**ABSTRACT.** *The title of this work is “mon coeur veut éclater,” translating to “my heart wants to burst.” Composed of twenty lines, this poem follows queer thoughts on compulsory ideation, specifically sexual, in a patriarchal and heteronormative society.*

i crave a dull ache...  
a dull ache that refuses dissipation  
for such dissipation would cushion my fall onto the unabating forbidden proclivity that would consume me with desire for comparably agonizing attraction.

i crave a pain...  
a pain deeply rooted in being desperate  
so desperate to fall in love with someone that society deems acceptable despite being frightfully aware that unrequited, verboten attachment would harm me less than my impending future.

i crave a suffering...  
a suffering capable of providing me with courage the kind of courage that would allow me to forego an explanation or reasoning behind my infatuation though i could never fully express this without first admitting how empty one would have to be to live so sanguine in this state.



**STUDENT BIO.** Maggie Kelly is a freshman Choral Music Education major from Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She is involved in USM's Creative Writing Group, the Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Madrigals Choir, and Concert Choir. She submitted her poem titled, “mon coeur veut éclater” in the Healing & Empowerment category on Saturday, January 22, 2022.