

RACHEL HALL

Two Women

It's a complicated situation –

having a complicated relationship with your body

when you're surrounded by other bodies that work,

bodies that heal once they've been hit

rather than simply getting over it.

We are so obsessed with skin.

Our sociocultural mantras tell us

that it is our fortress.

It isn't.

It was so easy for him to break -

spotted purple-blue, orange-red.

Two women die every week

at the hands of a man

because men cannot police their imaginations.

They take our offerings and throw them

at the wall.

I just want to feel someone cradle my jaw

even though it's broken.

Is the world such an evil place

that love is now indistinguishable

from the purest forms of hate?