



sonogram

by Dillon Jaxx

the waiting room serves four departments gynaecology • ante-
natal • neurology and alternative realities • this is not my first time •
i come prepared for a long wait • so engrossed in my book i hear my name
as though from the shores of a different world • following the clipboarded nurse
i answer routine questions and settle myself onto the papered couch • i lift my top
with one hand and pull down my pants with the other • readying myself for the cold
gel • she drives the handheld scanner over my doughy belly and emits an *ob* that ricochets
off the walls • the sound of surprise filling the room • *it's a child* she says • impossible •
no not a foetus she continues • turning the monitor towards me • *a child* • i squint
at the screen as she moves the detector and we discover another • and another •
a room full of children • around four years old • all with identical faces to mine
all completely different • sitting • waiting • my mouth opens but i have
nothing to add to the *ob* that is still bouncing between the walls
like a ball • like a boy • like a possibility