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chapter town (ghost-town)

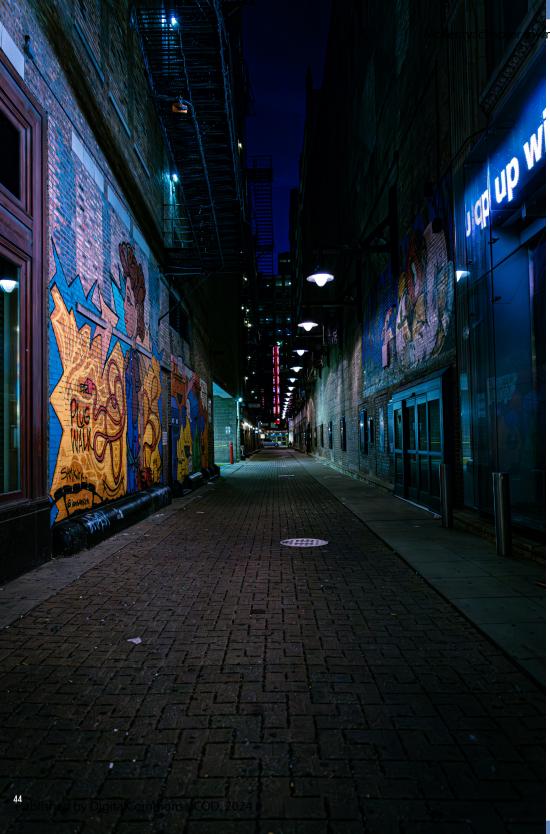
Natalie McKenty College of DuPage

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n (ghost-town)

chapter town (ghost-town)

Natalie McKenty

Come on in

We're all good and clean Join the rotation The melting pot of middle-class pretension and petty sin Babes in the womb till age eighteen That's when you put in for your cancellation Because this is a chapter town And yet, I...

Rot, rot

I woke up today And I nearly put my head through a wall Goddamn this cemetery The gossips say what they say I suppose I was bound to fall Dreams, like the green of a mid-west January Because this is a chapter town And yet, I...

Rot, rot

Static as a discarded Polaroid shot The mere phantom of an afterthought Aimlessly pacing in autopilot I am here in the same old spot

This was supposed to be a chapter town Not a continuous breakdown "Get it together, and just move on," they say For my very soul they do pray As I lay face down Right in their overpriced ground Right after I was drowned



"If you hate it here, just leave!" "Just keep reading" "Jesus Christ, why'd you stop breathing?!"

I, I, I wish I could say Map out the route to better earthly days I thumb through the words, but I can't discern a single phrase The tragedy of coming of age in make-believe

Rot, rot

Please help me Because I've come to the conclusion Even if it's a prideful delusion In the copy of my edition The last few pages of this chapter were redacted And now I'm left going spastic I can't stand it I'm just the apparition that lost her shit The ghost of a town she can't flee

Rot, rot

Lost as a discarded Polaroid shot The mere phantom of those who forgot Because this is a chapter town No, it's her ghost-town And the very worst kind, at that Isolation of her own self deluded creation

Oh, what a hellish plot-twist...

⁴⁶ https://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol46/iss2/46