

The Prairie Light Review

Volume 46
Number 2 *Spring 2024*

Article 47

Spring 5-1-2024

Overlook

Jill Spealman
College of DuPage

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.cod.edu/plr>

Recommended Citation

Spealman, Jill (2024) "Overlook," *The Prairie Light Review*. Vol. 46: No. 2, Article 47.
Available at: <https://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol46/iss2/47>

This Artwork is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@COD. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@COD. For more information, please contact orenick@cod.edu.



Jill Spealman — Photograph

Overlook

Rot, rot

“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...