

Fall 12-1-2016

## What did you notice first?

Alyssa Ahlert  
*College of DuPage*

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

---

### Recommended Citation

Ahlert, Alyssa (2016) "What did you notice first?," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 39 : No. 1 , Article 35.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol39/iss1/35>

This Selection 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 [koteles@cod.edu](mailto:koteles@cod.edu).

## “What did you notice first?”

She wears her hair up.

Sometimes in elegant swirls, threads of liquid chocolate weaving together to rest like a crown upon her head;

Sometimes in a messy bun, rebellious follicles straining toward the sky for a better view of the sun.

(Though the sun can never quite compare to you, my dear.)

She wears her hair up.

Strands clinging to her cranium as children cling to their favorite toy -

Whether their grip is ironclad or lazy and loose, the prize is never relinquished, even for a moment.

(If only I could have more moments here with you.)

She wears her hair up.

Exposing a distracting expanse of porcelain skin,  
Speckled with angel kisses as far as the eye can see.

(And an angel you must be to smile at me so.)

She wears her hair up.

The rich earthen tones of her tresses rivalled only by the sweet honey of her eyes -

Honey on a summer's day, deceptively deep and impossibly alluring, drawing the curious in just close enough to taste the sugar in her smile.

(If you are honey, then I am a bee, forever enraptured by your charm.)

She wears her hair up, and it's beautiful.

And yet,

I dream of how it would feel to card my fingers through it,

Removing clips and pins and worries as I go,

Reveling in the peace we would find together.



(She still wears her hair up.  
But sometimes she lets it  
down for me, and I love her  
all the more.)

Thirty Minutes of Ink  
Ink on mixed media by  
Natalia Tertusio

*Alyssa Ahlert*