

# UC Merced

## The Vernal Pool

### Title

another poem about long distance relationships

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Peer reviewed|Undergraduate

another poem about long-distance relationships

By Maria Nguyen-Cruz

It would be nice to be held by you  
but for now I must hold you  
in the phone in my pocket  
or the laptop on my desk.

Hearing your voice on the phone  
or seeing you on my computer screen,  
act as a tune up  
and keep me going through the week.

Until the shuffling of books into bags is in my ears  
for the last time this week,  
then I can rush to my car,  
wait for the green light,  
and speed onto the highway.

Even if I wish that it wasn't me  
driving my car for hours on end,  
I know that after enduring the mundane task  
what awaits me at the finish line  
is a reward that is so coveted  
but escapes the grasp of so many,  
that songs and poems have been written,  
candies crafted,  
and holidays  
celebrated in its honor.

We refer to it as a kiss.  
I know that I've kissed you before,  
but can I try again, and again?

At least until I must go back to the starting line,  
and wait to start the race again.

One day, we'll change  
and we won't count days,  
then hours,  
or minutes.

Dollars,  
pennies,  
and quarters  
spent on gas.

Instead,  
we'll be doing a victory lap.