It Was Just a Hand

It was just a hand with an organ player's fingers gripping mine, the way I'd squeezed yours, at the edge of the passenger seat where I squirmed behind traitorous transparent windows willing to allow scowls at stoplights from drivers who deemed it immoral or sinful or ridiculous or dirty or sick. It was just a hand that'd doled out three dollars for my double-chocolate-chip shake as chilly as my coursing corpuscles while I coveted the invisibility of the Cheshire Cat and sat sipping opposite cappuccino-coloured calf eyes guarded by a walnut-shaped nose and plump, spittle-splattered lips that grinned under dim lights at Medici just as I'd smiled at you quaffing your diet cola at Denny's when I wanted the world to witness me with a girl like you. It was just a hand that guided me where my parents dreaded I'd be led, though they would've been fine if they'd found out that you'd let me fondle you under a gibbous moon. They wouldn't need to know I was



Criss-crossing North America on copywriting and copy editing assignments, **Adrian Slonaker** is fond of opals, folk revival records, fire noodles, The Alfred Hitchcock Hour, non-alcoholic blue drinks and cuckoo clocks. Adrian's work has been published in WINK: Writers in the Know, Ariel Chart, Introspective Collective and others.

The Pangolin Review – Issue 12