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Hope & Trust Word Association

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Cover Page Footnote

This piece was written and workshopped in 18S. The prompt for this exercise: in turn, describe these abstract nouns, hope and trust.

Hope & Trust

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Caroline Cook

Hope

When a feeling like potential catches in your throat
Picking up your phone every time it rings
The knowledge that something better must exist
Choosing to believe in something you cannot see
The clouds parting and releasing the Sun
Pausing before opening that letter from the person who swore they'd always write, then didn't
Saying "see you later" and meaning it
Looking at a child and watching them discover sunlight and heartache and seeing the future in their eyes

Trust

Trust is having the nerve to sing in front of you—not just in the shower, but in a moving car with the radio turned up and the windows rolled down.
Trust is talking for hours about that thing that you love that other people never let you talk about—how beautiful you think Wes Anderson movies are, even though your friends think you need to watch more films about the Civil War.
Trust is laughing, that real honest laugh that you didn't even realize you stopped suppressing. It's an instinct and it's loud and your nose crinkles up and you stop and notice that you've never laughed like that before.
Trust is knowing that someone can see you and not caring—in fact, trust is wanting them to see more of you.
Trust is seeing that the rope is fraying but believing with every last iota that the knot will hold one more day.
Trust is getting up each and every morning knowing that you have a whole day spread out before you, with people depending on you, and still getting up out of bed.
Trust is letting someone take care of you. Letting their hand hold the spoon full of soup when the quilt your grandmother stitched is pulled up to your chin.

Trust is greater than love.

Kevin Donohue

HOPE

The only thing there is
The inscrutable core of my soul
All that remains
Driver
Agitator
Mover and shaker

Hanger-onner
Flier
Fighter and a pugilist
Writer and a naturalist
Traveler
Flickerer in the darkness

TRUST

Hope
Hope in another
Hope in one another
Hope in one another's hope in one another
Hope remaining one another day
Hope knowing hope will always again sound like a real word after saying hope too many times