

April 2013

## Ill-Equipped

Rachel Phillips

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/anthology>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Phillips, Rachel (2013) "Ill-Equipped," *The Anthology*. Vol. 2013, Article 8.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/anthology/vol2013/iss1/8>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Anthology by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@mailbox.winthrop.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@mailbox.winthrop.edu).

► ***Ill-Equipped*** | Rachel Phillips

A classroom of adolescent pock-faced teens is  
No place to learn about sex.  
Slideshows of foreign terminology  
And hand drawings of cartoon genitalia  
Don't prepare you for the real world.

What they can't teach you is—  
The way boys spin words to make your panties drop.  
The way your lips can perfectly form the word that could free you,  
Your heart beats so loudly that you can't hear yourself silently screaming—  
N-O.

School can't prepare you for the  
Absence of that monthly ritual,  
Or the feeling of being ripped open from the inside out.  
They can't teach you how to clean blood from cotton sheets.

► ***Hypertrophic iv. Prisma*** | Bryanna Smith



► ***Sabotage*** | Laura Ketcham

