

**Cruciverba #2** (Cruciverba #2' was published in the fourth issue of [underblong journal](#))

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listen: a girl's head hangs  
from a tree / & all night  
her lips hinge their lightless  
words upon its leaves /  
    think of her body / & a bird  
    inside it / bone perched  
    on thinner bone / songs  
    snowed across her veins /  
        begging to lean along the sky /  
        break its beakless mouth /  
        to song

Bio: Devanshi Khetarpal is from Bhopal, India, but currently lives in New York, where she is a BA-MA candidate in Comparative Literature at New York University. Her poetry collection, 'Small Talk,' came out in 2019 from Writers Workshop, and her work has been published or is forthcoming in *The Bombay Literary Magazine*, *Diacritics*, *Vayavya*, and *Transom*, among others. Her website is: [www.devanshikhetarpal.co](http://www.devanshikhetarpal.co).