

**THE  
RACKET | 63**

THE RACKET : QUARANTINE JOURNAL, Vol. 4, NO. 63

Copyright 2021  
The Racket

Cover Image: Christiaan Conradie  
Credit: © Christiaan Conradie  
Title/Date: *the truth that laid us bare / 2020*

Website: <http://www.christiaanconradie.com/>  
IG: [@christiaanconradie](https://www.instagram.com/christiaanconradie)

Promotional rights only.

This book, or parts thereof, may not be reproduced in any form without permission from individual authors.

The scanning, uploading and distribution of this document via the internet or any other means without the permission of the author(s) is illegal.

*Take advantage. Take advantage. Take advantage.*



# CONTENTS

---

ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE	<i>Double Negative</i>	1
ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE	<i>Untitled</i>	2
ELISSA FERTIG	<i>Pyrite</i>	3
ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE	<i>Night Descends</i>	4
JENNIFER R. EDWARDS	<i>Ode to My iFIT Instructor</i>	5
MJ LOURENS	<i>Unknown Detours</i>	6
MJ LOURENS	<i>Veil of Time</i>	7
C.E. SHUE	<i>Bridge of Knots</i>	8
ADELE VAN HEERDEN	<i>Cruising the Karoo</i>	10
ADELE VAN HEERDEN	<i>Ordinary Days</i>	11
CRAIG COTTER	<i>A Photo of Alex at 50</i>	12
ADELE VAN HEERDEN	<i>Atrium</i>	13



*DOUBLE NEGATIVE*  
ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE  
2019



UNTITLED  
ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE  
2020

# Pyrite

ELISSA FERTIG

---

Look at the light hemmed-in till some hot day comes to fuck it all up.

Flickered, and pulled across the surface of your teeth: something glittering come down the mountain, your pearly-whites strung together.

You are the one knowing.

Decked out in secrets that wink like jewels or jewels that shine like licked lips,

I am ready for you.

Ready for translation that doesn't taste as good as its true origin, I have vacated my own desires to make way for a foreign tongue;

sweet, heavy.

A language of safekeeping.

I have readied a hill of salt for you to stand on so that you might know what it's like to get free.

From now on you must do every single thing that you want.

From now on you must embody your desires as if pyrite:

lustered, wanton, gritty, false.



*NIGHT DESCENDS*  
ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE  
2021

# CONTRIBUTORS

---

CHRISTIAAN CONRADIE

CRAIG COTTER

JENNIFER EDWARDS

ELISSA FERTIG

ALLISON GILDERSLEEVE

ADELE VAN HEERDEN

MJ LOURENS

C.E. SHUE