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Miller, Alyson 2013, Brothers Grimm, *Aker magazine*, pp. 1-1.

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AKER MAGAZINE : Alyson Miller <http://www.akermag.com/#!alyson-miller/c12v4>

Brothers Grimm

A story, like a fairytale. Two blind brothers, bound by the intimacy of detail: the smell of sunlight on glass, the weight of air in the winter, the exact height of each door. They are identical in every way. Fingernails: chewed to the quick. Facial hair: a scratching of stubble along the jaw. Eyes: 25 blinks a minute, always. We will not know their names but hear of their bodies on the news and talk for a while about their deaths. We imagine the beautiful town of their home, a village tasting of labyrinthine streets, blue skies, and the clarity of church bells. We listen of the brothers being told that their ears are curling away from the world, rejecting the distress of sound in the same way as their eyes refused the violence of sight. And how, in the same way as grieving whales throw off the weight of the ocean, they gave it all up. Breath: stopped hard in the same gasp. Heads: an awkward fall to the right. Toes: scrunched tight like fists under white sheets.

