

## **Men who take up space**

In the third grade I thought about boys who take up space  
How they lounged in their chairs, wide and free  
While I was expected to sit still, legs crossed with a quiet grace

In high school I thought about boys who take up space  
They were loud, disruptive and entitled to a tee  
Their goals were just a finish line, all they had to do was give chase

Now, in college, I think about men who take up space  
How universities were created to give them a degree  
How when their feet hit the ground running, I wasn't allowed to race

I think about these boys and these men who take up space  
Who can open every door because they were born with the key  
How is it simply because of my gender, I wasn't given the same societal embrace?

I think about what to say to the girl who doesn't know how to take up space  
I think about how to tell her that boys simply don't see  
They don't see how hard she has to try to keep up with their pace

I think about the boy next to me, and I look at his face  
I wonder why him and not me  
Why it's him, a boy, who takes up space  
And why it will be another a man who will take his place