

Two poems by Kellie Kovar

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Quickening

“To shine more brightly”

- Merriam-Webster, intransitive verb

Twisting, turning

Fluttering, kicking

Bubbles, butterflies

You amaze me with your every movement.

Spring Chicken

It's still winter and you're not here yet,
but I can already see you in my arms
as the weather warms and the daffodils
trumpet out your arrival. Every sprout
of green that springs forth
is yet another herald of your coming.

My sweet little boy, you are loved
more than I can express,
but that won't stop me from trying.

Biography: Kellie Kovar was born as a military brat on RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk, England in 1982. She spent her childhood in Arizona, Okinawa, and California – travelling to various bases with her family. She later served six years on active duty in the United States Air Force. Following her honorable

separation from the military, she was finally able to continue her higher education, starting at McMurry University in Abilene, TX and concluding at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, WV with a B.A. in English: creative writing and a minor in art. She is the author of *Juxtaposition*, a chapbook that was self-published in 2018. She currently resides in California with her husband, Johnathan, and their new son, Nathaniel.

"Spring Chicken" won third place in the poetry category of The Vandalia's 2021 Art & Literature Contest.