

TYGR: Student Art and Literary Magazine 2018-present

Volume 2018
Issue 1 2017-2018

Article 38

2018

Overtime

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Recommended Citation

Hughes, Rachel (2018) "Overtime," *TYGR: Student Art and Literary Magazine 2018-present*: Vol. 2018 : Iss. 1 , Article 38.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/tygr/vol2018/iss1/38>

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Overtime

By Rachel Hughes

The faux leather chair squeaks mockingly
As ticking hands
Expire promises,
Turning them into echoed apologies.

What happens when
working to put food on the table
means eating alone at a desk?
What happens when
windows in the coveted corner office
turn out to all be mirrors?
What happens when
weathered hands caress more keys
than loved ones' cheeks?

Incandescent bulbs and elevator buttons
Shine brighter than a billion stars.
The sky is obsidian;
Yet the city does not sleep.

NARROW
PHOTOGRAPH
AMBERLY WHITE