

*Chase Davenport*

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## With Them in Ohio

*In response to photos on domestic violence  
titled "Maggie and Shane" by Sara Naomi Lewkowicz*

Both eyes are closed. He kisses your temple. His thumb is pressed into your cheek. It is unnatural. The way a quiet mouth opens and stays. His breath is warm and slow and quickly cools. He does not close his eyes for this. And how could he? This man who has left you. This man, your son has said, is no one's father.

Your daughter saw you pushed against the stove. She screamed and stomped and reached for you. She crawled to you. She hid under your arm and cried and cried.

He stood away. Your name tattooed around his neck, *Maggie*, bruised, something, she hopes, you will forget. You, the mother, you, the daughter.