

# Diamond Line Undergraduate Literary Magazine

---

Volume 1 | Issue 3

Article 24

---

April 2021

## Dead Girls

Charlotte Edsall

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/diamondlinelitmag>

---

### Recommended Citation

Edsall, Charlotte (2021) "Dead Girls," *Diamond Line Undergraduate Literary Magazine*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 3 , Article 24.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/diamondlinelitmag/vol1/iss3/24>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UARK. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Diamond Line Undergraduate Literary Magazine* by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@UARK. For more information, please contact [ccmiddle@uark.edu](mailto:ccmiddle@uark.edu).

*Dead Girls* | Charlotte Edsall  
*Poetry Winner of Christopher McKean Memorial Award*

Ophelia lies  
sinking  
her placid face ensuring us we should not fret  
even as her skirts mingle with the silt  
this is beautiful  
see how her hair halos  
the color complimented by the pond weeds and the  
willow  
her water-lily skin  
a precious thing

Snow White lies  
cold in a crystal casket  
silent and worshiped  
by her men  
this is beautiful  
barely a breath from her cherry lips  
see how still her sculpted flesh  
a rosy little Apple  
ripe for the plucking

It is 1882 in Paris  
a body has just been pulled from the Seine  
as she lays there on that icy slab  
her face a mask of relief  
sure, she has finally escaped  
the rule of men  
the coroner wonders at her nubile skin  
this is beautiful  
he decides  
pours hot wax over her lips drowns her twice  
steals her face away  
to keep for his own delights  
or to sell and make a mint

