

## **needleworks**

I have been mending my chest  
binders by hand – for years,  
they are an expensive garment  
not easy to come by in many ways

so I repair them,  
creating stitches along the seams  
not unlike the ones  
that will adorn my chest someday

binders are designed to be durable  
but no fabric can endure the strains and tears  
of life, lust and daily wear  
of hikes, bike rides, embraces and grocery runs  
the passion, comfort and unease  
of a life lived to the fullest  
in the body you were given

they are a durable garment, but they are not forever  
and until for-now ends  
I sit here, mending  
the way my grandmother taught me  
when I was a child