Sample 3 | Alison Rahman

Beaten Heart

It starts with flip flops.

Plastic things, cheap and worn.

Broken remnants of a lesson he taught.

Shining sun and glossy grey fill my vision.

I wake up to pray.

Faith is starved to the bone. Strangled by a child of ten years old, Faith is lost with a pair of flip flops.

Gulping down crisp autumn air, I trace scars in the patio French doors. Another blink and nothing is there.

Endless bloody thumps only a torn heart can hear, reek of a man's hands and his awful plan.

It starts with flip flops.
Plastic thing bruised and beaten.
When will this heart stop?