

COLPOSCOPY

for Nicole

Li Yun Alvarado

You who traveled
six hours by bus
carrying six months
of life in your belly.

You who delivered
family gossip
tickled me with stories
loosened the clench
in my chest.

You who sat by my side,
examined a magazine,
while the doctor
examined my cervix

for cancer.

You, sister,

You stopped the tears.