Erase Her

by David James

I wake up in the morning and write her name on the white paper napkin I always place in front of me at the kitchen table as I have my first cup of coffee. I write it throughout the day. Twelve or fifteen times. I've done this for exactly twenty-three days. I always use a yellow pencil with #2 lead. The wooden kind. They have erasers on top. I get angry, furious actually. I break the erasers off. I have to. I don't want to be tempted to use one.