

—+ **MICHELINE MAYLOR** | Artefacts Item 3

Short blue dress  
Rough in texture  
Let out for maternity

No one could guess  
By looking at the thing  
It was a wedding gown  
Or that the bride  
Who never once smiled  
Thought while slicing cake  
*How will I ever get out of this?*

—+ **MICHELINE MAYLOR** | Artefacts Item 10

A small wooden chair  
Early modern  
Country in style  
Ruined by stripping  
Little value

Once sat before dinner guests  
While on it perched  
A young drunk groom  
Pants around his ankles  
He smiled then  
Defecated  
On the seat  
For all to admire

What a stunning feat  
No applause required  
A gift for the bride  
He exclaimed

Guests and ex-husband still  
Remain unaccounted for.

Apartment piano  
Good wood  
Delicate legs  
Modern in style  
Small velvet seat  
Dressed in red with fringe

Rescued from the smoke  
That destroyed  
Mother's bedroom  
All others escaped through upper floor window  
In the seed black night  
While the fireman doused  
The whole damn place

And everyone wondered  
Where the lipstick  
Stained cigarette  
That started it all  
Came from.

—+ MICHELINE MAYLOR | Artefacts Item 22

Good ring  
Five small diamonds  
Approx. 1/4 carat per  
Platinum band

Purchased after Norman  
*Stormin' Norman*  
Drunk on Saturday  
Chased his wife  
And second youngest child  
Around the small lakeside house  
With a large knife  
While screaming obscenities  
At their flashing legs  
Hacking strips into their trailing dresses

Eventually tired and passed out  
Beside the stairs  
Surrounded by his own urine and vomit

Cleaned up and put to bed by wife  
Never forgiven by daughter  
Never touched another drop of liquor

Note the finely crafted facets  
Colour good, clarity excellent.