

Runaway;

The young man with a name
that eats the vowels in the middle

left his roommate Fernando
and the word “shut-down” sharp on our tongues—

A silver fishhook robbed of bait,
Red metal boxcar on abandoned tracks,
The hem of the carefree girl’s earth green dress
as it skims the surface of the water and laughs

our very own *estrella fugaz*.