

BROKEN UP

EMILY RIDDLE

Split ends with split ends
Open the cupboard and take out the no-name coconut oil
Pry the fridge door open to check how far gone the eggs are
You have changed from the type of person who throws out food on the
exact expiry date
To one who inspects it, assumes it's probably okay, if not green, runny,
smelly

I am bisexual and I am not sure I want to do this

Mix both and place in hair, trying not to get raw egg all over your face
Wrap hair in one of those plastic grocery bags you felt guilty for taking
You have so many tote bags in your front closet awaiting use
Sit down and turn on some mindless Netflix show
You miss the days of renting a movie and committing to the cause
Swipe left on every single polyamorous person on Vancouver tinder

Some nehiyawak have truly majestic hair, but majestic is a high bar for
anyone now

So it's hard not to believe your damaged ends are some sort of moral
failing

The egg in is apparently reducing protein loss
There is debate on whether or not the coconut oil particles are small
enough to permeate your hair

Regardless, this ritual feels productive

Go on dates with people who go home and google "Plains Cree"

Rinse out this mask in a cold shower, trying to make sure your hair is not
Scrambled eggs and split ends

Just split ends and split ends

In the case of hair, you cannot mend what is already broken

Chop off your dry ends

And become a new person