

Delinquent

[Sealed court proceedings
will be treated as though
they never took place.

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Being a poor girl
was my first offense.
Lipstick secondary.

Pink Illusions—
I carried it out
in my fist.

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*"If Bon Marche make us pay
for the stolen thingies,
we can have the jeans, no?"*

Asks my immigrant mom
while reading
the arrest paperwork.

*

"I do not know you anymore."

Says mother who praises Jesus from a sectional sofa
who sends our money away to The 700 Club on TV

Says father who buys me round-trip Greyhound tickets
who lets me visit him once a year every June for 10 days

Says me who wears Greatlash in very black
and Kotex with wings

*

Watch bubble mirror for narcs. Pocket blush. Slide liners up sleeve.
Go somewhere dead (like House/Home). Drop all empty packaging.

*

Two detached parents
like warm, fleshy lobes
to push safety pins through

Flared nostril
Furrowed brow
Flipped lip

Control is the hole
I punch
inside of you

*

Personal belongings: Purse

Style: Clutch

Contents: Purple Rain nail polish
cut price tags lip gloss three bucks
bus transfer four plastic sacks key

Note: No parent available by phone

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If someone asks about your sealed file,
the law requires the answer,
“We have no records of that matter.”]