

4-3-2023

## **I Think I've Processed It But**

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### **Recommended Citation**

Hockaday, Amber M. (2023) "I Think I've Processed It But," *Digressions: Literary & Art Journal*: Vol. 20, Article 5.

Available at: <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/digressions/vol20/iss1/5>

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## I Think I've Processed It But

### Author Bio

Amber Hockaday is a Junior majoring in legal studies and political science. She is a part of NSU's ROTC program. Hockaday is originally from Texas but moved when she was 8 years old. Amber has lived in Spain, Ghana, Namibia, and South Africa until moving back to the US to go to NSU.

# I Think I Have Processed It But

AMBER HOCKADAY

I think I've processed it but  
I still remember how it felt when you took my clothes off,  
How I said no,  
And how you did it anyway.

I think I've processed it but  
I still remember running out of your apartment while you  
were asleep,  
Wandering by the water for hours,  
And praying that someone would come and save me.

I think I've processed it but  
I still remember convincing myself that I wanted it,  
That it wasn't as bad as it was,  
That I was overreacting.

I think I've processed it but  
I still remember the constant feeling of nausea,  
The loss,  
The agony.

I think I've processed it but  
Every time it happens to cross my mind, the spiral begins  
all over again.

Maybe I haven't processed it, but I can finally speak about it,  
Out in the open,  
As if it's no longer a secret.

## Author Statement

*"I was sexually assaulted March 27th, 2021, around 3 am. I pretended like it was something I wanted, that maybe I wasn't vocal enough in expressing that I didn't want it, and maybe I acted like I enjoyed it, and that sent a mixed message. I didn't want to tell anyone because I was afraid that I would be blamed. I had been in fight-or-flight mode for months without realizing it. I remember all the details of that night, but it no longer consumes me with overwhelming fear, it gets better, and this poem is proof of that."*