

## Sam's Finest Students

*Makoto Hunter*

*Neighbors*

they were, when they broke up your baptisms

*Americans*

they were, when they scattered your press

*Citizens*

they were, when they drove you from the nation

*For the family*

they were, when they trampled on yours

*Your own good*

they said, when they called Ida a whore

*Your own good*

they said, when they put Belle in a cage

*Your own good*

they said, when they quashed Seraph's vote

*Your own good.*

*Just be Mormon in your head.*

*Neighbors*

you are, when you scorn our wedding

*Americans*

you are, when you storm our club

*Citizens*

you are, when you vote to exclude us

*For the family*

you are, when you dismiss ours

*Your own good*

you say, when you say we divide you

*Your own good*

you say, when you leave our kids out

*Your own good*

you say, when you joke about gunfire

*Your own good.*

*Just be queer in your head.*

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MAKOTO HUNTER studies weird love and writes weird poems. A graduate student in American history, she researches the intersection of sexuality, religion, and law in the United States.