

ANTISOCIAL MEDIA MOMS

Forgive us, children.
Because we were performers, we made you perform.

We grew accustomed to sharing
the best parts of
ourselves,
and you became the mainstage act.

Your pics became our memes, your quips became our clicks.
Our memories of you are well-curated thirty-second clips.

A quick scroll of the thumb your life, distilled.
We loved to watch you
through screens.

Undocumented dimples were as real as air-blown kisses.
Your first words were wasted breath,
because our phones were charging in the kitchen.

We were all stage moms.

And we are sorry,
because we missed the show.

Jacquie Walters
California, USA