

## **Growing into myself**

This is a long term project I started when I began to take my photography a little more seriously at age 16. My sister, four years younger than I, had just embarked on the shared ship of puberty. Together we used my camera to explore what made us us. What made us special, beautiful and grown up. Me, behind the camera getting more secure and confident in my style and view on the world and my sister in front of it. Over time the camera seemed to not disappear but light up any situation, spellcast this special spell of being an explorer more than in the usual. And we loved it. We came to love ourselves. Not as adults, as grown and perfect but rather as growing, as hope and future. Sometimes we stretched the borders of who we were, sometimes we retreated deep inside them. Awkwardness came and went away just to come visit again. We learned there is no I to grow into, rather an I that means the moment. We started our journey of growing into ourselves just to realize that we are, in fact, ourselves. The pictures mark the journey.

Fiona Klenke