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## HOLLY DAY

## Have I Got the Strength

- I imagine how it will happen:
- I'll be in the kitchen, making a sandwich
- or in the living room, sorting through the mail

when I'll hear him gasping somewhere nearby. I'll look up

and see him clawing at his chest or his throat, a panicked look on his face, before he falls to the floor, silent. This is the moment when I'll have to decide if I'm going to call for an ambulance or wait to see if he recovers on his own,

or just stays down. This is the moment when I'll find out if I'm the type of person would could let my husband just die if the thought of life insurance payouts and no more arguments about my weight or the credit card bills

or the kids or our future is the thing that keeps my hand from picking up the phone

if I really am that kind of monster after all of this.

Holly Day's poetry has recently appeared in Tampa Review, SLAB, and Gargoyle, and her published books include Walking Twin Cities, Music Theory for Dummies, and Ugly Girl.