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MARLENE KADAR

Last Few Days Love Thee

Last few days love thee like I remember
soft shouldered man with strong wrists.

Last few days love thee like I speak
holding words and voice unfettered.

Last few days love thee like I mourn
time lost in furies not of our own making.

Last few days love thee like I sleep
in our bed. Our task of rewinding begins.

Marlene Kadar teaches Humanities and Women's Studies at York University, and is the Editor of the Life Writing Series, Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

ALISON PRYER

Love Poem (for Bobby)

I want
to write a love poem for
you,
but I know
when this is all over you'll
be lying
in bed with some other
woman,
drinking afternoon beers,
and for a laugh
you'll dig out some old
love
letters from other girls,
and maybe, my poem.

You'll read it out loud
and snicker
when you tell her about
the girl who thought she
was a poet,
and you'll both convulse
helplessly
with belly laughs
like two beached jelly fish
as if to prove that you
never
cared for me.

Still, I want
to write you a love poem,
a poem
you might never read.
I want to write
about the fire that
consumed me
that day when I first saw
the love in your eyes,
the day when I gave you
blue flowers
and you first kissed me.

Alison Pryer has taught in German and Japanese public schools, and at the University of British Columbia. A recent doctoral graduate, the focus of her research is pedagogy and the embodied self.