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# By the Bypass

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JOHN ASHBERY

*By the Bypass*

Pucker your ankles. Don't freeze the weapons, or  
at this hour a lot of places are going to be cooling down.  
It's going to the fireside. Until things get better.  
They would never have anything to do with finding real estate,  
get to me through sheer sense of place.

Three days packing fog,  
abducted, later released, she doesn't know how to get here.  
The same feeling is appealing, it's disruptive when  
our fans get ahead. Those who help me understood  
henbane is box office poison. Same for midlength weepies.  
Those who understand them don't necessarily understand,  
nor play favorites when the other children are near.  
You tittered, like, is there something I'm not getting here?  
Oh shut up and do it.

He took advantage of her/me.  
What is that like in your life?  
It could never have happened.  
Come with me somewhere.