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Lawn Days

Andrew Walters Cole
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LAWN DAYS

Andrew Walters Cole

Today the rhododendrons
arch over an impaled pigeon:
mouth open, half buried
by the fence.

I've given my neighbors warnings
about pre-ballgame rituals:
coloring the sky in gargles
and heat as their dogs
piss on my garage.

This is their's.

The yews sway the stillness
never sworn. The garden hose
is hissing while jazz chords
ring out at 11:38:

The gowned lady ghostlike
patters across the porch,
oily face in the moonlight
screaming "Shew!" into the scud.

I laugh from my window seeing
the fat curdle on her cheeks.

I've called her Mrs. Bitchum
60 Saturdays in a row.