

Orphan, Indiana

AKRON SERIES IN POETRY



Orphan, Indiana

David Dodd Lee

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*Heat stopped publishing 6 miles back
where the décor was a door hanging free from a hinge.*
—Catherine Meng, *Tonight's the Night*

*I'm speeding west somewhere in the top of Ohio or Indiana,
and to my right is the Arctic Circle, all white and scary.*
—Arthur Vogelsang, *A Planet*



I

He Never Failed Strangely to Greet It

It all starts with the sentence, chain
of lakes like your blushing neutrality—

Houses in his little hand like dice

Then the windows reappear

I begin to pray in the dark

I stand up

Flashes of light like the moon

Headlights all over the highway . . .

Blood falls off the antlers

The suburb is smothered in rain coats

Smoke curlicues out of a red brick chimney

Nobody says a word

Not one of the other dreaming passengers