

# Forces

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Philip Fullman

Golfers will tell you  
 they'll hit 100 bad shots  
 to hit one  
 where the sweet spot of the club  
 meets the sweet spot of the ball  
 making the sound you always think of  
 when you think of a golf ball being hit  
 driving the ball straight down the fairway  
 the club feels so good in your hands  
 you forget the last 100 shots  
 the one in the trees  
 the one you lost  
 taking a drop  
 the one you sliced so badly on 9  
 it hit a cart at the tee box on 8  
 all forgotten  
 ready to hit 100 more  
 into the sand  
 the rough  
 and the water hazard  
 just to hear that sound

Poetry's the same  
 you write 100 bad poems  
 about the girl who cheated on you  
 or the one you think cheated on you  
 but could never prove  
 but that's okay because you cheated on her  
 that time you told her you were out of town  
 when you were actually down the street  
 spending the weekend with that girl  
 you both work with that she can't stand  
 that you want to sleep with  
 but act like you can't stand  
 so she won't think anything is going on

just to write that one poem  
 the one you don't cringe when you read  
 the one that's as good on paper  
 as it was in your head  
 the one a reader gets  
 even though they had to work for it  
 giving you a type of bond with them  
 encouraging you to write 100 more  
 abusing metaphors  
 comparing sailing to freedom  
 love to just about everything  
 and golf to poetry



**UNTITLED 2** Norma Jean Montejano