

# The Oval

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## Tolerance

Kevin Sheetz

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KEVIN SHEETZ

# TOLERANCE

Empty noose  
    swinging in the stillness  
of some forgotten afternoon  
perfect in shadow  
    not dusty or frayed  
bloodworn   teardrops  
    like petals  
    spreading  
what do men see  
    when they look at one another?  
how many are still proud?