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Wingless

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Wingless

by Michael Riedell

If you've ever seen a boy
hustling down the sidewalk on a skateboard,
barefoot and armless,
with just the bumps of his shoulders under his T-shirt,
you'd know why my pastor's wife,
bright-eyed and saved,
told our youth group about the teen she'd seen that day,
how the Lord works in mysterious ways,
how we are all like wingless angels,
that anything is possible if we believe
and have faith in Him.

And if you've ever known a woman like her,
you'd know why I didn't tell her,
You should see him
light a cigarette
or smoke a joint
and pass it to you
between his filthy,
miraculous
toes.