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## Deus Ex Machina

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COREY VAN LANDINGHAM

*Deus Ex Machina*

Drama's most realistic  
                                  here—we make it up  
                                  as we go. I love you  
I loved you I love  
                                  Love, though he  
                                  has wings.  
And, as Shelley  
                                  taught us,  
                                  like light can flee.

So we banish sunset  
                                  from the script. The couple  
                                  never went to bed  
still cross. They kept on  
                                  sitting at the table, waiting  
                                  forever for the moon.

Any man  
                                  can become hooked  
                                  by a stagehand's artificial  
wings. Failed  
                                  plot point. Exit  
forced. Like a finger  
                                  they lift the machine.

The vatic feelers  
                                  shut off for love.  
                                  Our hero, insofar  
as he is human,  
                                  could not transcend  
                                  the impatient final scene.

He improvises as desire  
                                  does—turns blind  
to the denouement.

Reconciliation. Triumph  
over reason.  
And the spectators  
are satisfied.