

back in,
I stayed at my
place.

and then the one
who was 30 years younger
saw me and
told me I was looking good
and she started coming
by

and I decided
I'd keep them both --
one to worry me sick
and thin me down
and the other to
pump me
full of sweet.

but I screwed that up.
I met a 31 year old
divorcee
from Texas
who looked like
a young Katherine Hepburn
and I went down there
and she introduced me
to the works of
Borges.

-- Charles Bukowski

San Pedro CA

THE HUNDRED-WORD STORY

A man decides to write a story that will be a hundred words long -- not ninety, or a hundred thirteen, but exactly a hundred. He knows it must be a real story, with a plot -- in this case, a man writing a story -- and some conflict -- the need to make the story exactly a hundred words. About halfway through, he begins to worry that he will not be able to do what he wants. What if he cannot say everything in a hundred words? He is afraid that he will either have to stop in the middle of a sentence.

-- F. Keith Wahle

Cincinnati OH