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The Martyr Defense

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untitled

Michelle Helms

Touch tender the palm of my hand
send spirals and flares running up my arm
make breaths move each hair
till shivers and feathers tie up my heart
and warm summer kisses drop me
head first
into that colored place
where silence is only
the absence of birds and
other small beings that sing

The Martyr Defense

Matt Kucik

You still seem wrapped
up in who and what carried
crosses
a regular spectacular
golgatha sideshow
and insist I
be 2 thieves at once
you've got a spotlight
on, your suffering
and tell yourself
keep telling yourself
uniforms are sleeveless
and martyrdom a defense
Yesterday, I stumbled upon
a bit of blood
you speared from my side
bottled it and sent it on
because you crucified
need all the blood
you can get