Life Giver Pantoum

Amy Griffin
Life Giver Pantoum

For Her part, Woman gracefully dresses Her breasts
Perfumes, and undresses.
Perhaps he’ll prefer more exposure.
With hormones and ores, She adorns Her best parts

Perfumes, and undresses.
Intricate symphonies disrupted by synthesized instruments.
With hormones and ores, She adorns Her best parts
Flattens Her hair and plumps it back up.

Intricate symphonies disrupted by synthesized instruments
She smooths over lotions, emotions and covers Her skin with a pigment of health
Flattens Her hair and plumps it back up.
She shaves, nicking herself on skin not meant to see blades.

She smooths over lotions, emotions and covers Her skin with a pigment of health
She bears with a smile the heat and the pain, only growing with age, the ache.
She shaves, nicking herself on skin not meant to see blades.
Conceives.

She bears with a smile the heat and the pain, only growing with age, the ache.
She holds and warms for months, carrying softly One who will bear the same weight,
Conceives.
pushing Her through war and carnage and fragments of bones.
She holds and warms for months, carrying softly One who will bear the same weight,
Sewing Herself back up, painfully pulling for one extra stitch.
pushing Her through war and carnage and fragments of bones.
Straightens Her spine and begins the dance once more.

Sewing Herself back up, painfully pulling for one extra stitch.
And as She returns to dress Her breasts, noticing misshapes and pockets and pores,
Straightens Her spine and begins the dance once more.
She bleeds, cries, and nurses.

And as She returns to dress Her breasts, noticing misshapes and pockets and pores,
Life giver,
She bleeds, cries, and nurses.
Her own grave digger.

Life giver,
(For his part, Man arrives late. Pill-pack in hand with two clearly cracked open.)
Her own grave digger.
(It’s all that he needs. It’s all he ever will.)

(For his part, Man arrives late. Pill-pack in hand with two clearly cracked open.)
Perhaps he’ll prefer more exposure.
(It’s all that he needs. It’s all he ever will.)
For Her part, Woman gracefully dresses Her breasts.