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Mother With Newborn

Eric Freeze

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MOTHER WITH NEWBORN

ERIC FREEZE

Rubber Cement.
It's my only defense.
The only thing that will work
to wean my child.
And it *is* work.
Like my oldest daughter—
the first time she took
her collage to school unfinished.
There was a hole right in the middle,
she said, crying while her
schoolmates laughed.
Bits of trauma, I suppose,
exposure like the open seams
of a potato split on the ground
before it is planted.
Splitting into all its parts
and eyes.