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## Rented Shoes

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# Rented Shoes

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by Scott Calhoun

The boutonniere  
proceeds me, a rose  
tight as a baby's fist.

My date can see herself  
in the reflection  
of my rented shoes.

All night I don't know anything to say.  
I pretend to enjoy lobster.

At the door I kiss her  
for a long time  
only our lips touching  
as moths burn on the bug light.

I loosen the bow tie  
while I drive home.  
Football players at the Circle K  
lick their dates'  
bare shoulders, somehow  
I know my life has just begun.

At home  
by the pool  
I float my plastic shoes  
across the water  
an invisible boy  
dancing on glass  
feet in two directions.