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## Liver Pâté

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**Liver Pâté**

*for Tia Clarke*

what did I say  
to make you go away

I'm unable to recall  
I take it back

need you back

unable to afford  
any further delay

however thin might have been,  
what we had,  
I want it back

upon what else  
would I put  
my gourmet cheeses,  
my liver pâté

a thin relationship  
so much more  
than thin air

please come back again  
I need you to fill  
a net of words

wouldn't want words of mine  
as well as my heart,  
to be, to beat empty

must I beat about the bush  
until you emerge  
like raccoon, like rabbit

unable to bear what remains  
following your  
abrupt departure

did I say something, do something  
to cause you to exit, to leave

or were you on your way out  
my antipathy but pretext

nothing but a poor excuse  
to kiss your teeth  
instead of me