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The Man Who

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The Man Who

The man who lives in the house at the corner
has a face made of noise and paper.
His roof is thatched from dead skin
and the hollow bones of birds.
The man looks at you as though
he has already had the wet pulp
of your heart between his teeth.
The wild thing in you thrashes,
having smelled the rust of the cage.
Perhaps he has built you a room
lined with eggshells and hair,
a delicate death made of
smashed little prayers.
But he has no idea
of all the wars
in your morning,
all the knives tucked
into your curving smile.