

1974

Rabbits

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RABBITS

the urge to stroke the dead
one back, handfeed life
to the animal
body even as its soft
vision dilates,
your calluses pulling
fur like lint from the unmendable

flesh. shake your head
& coming back, hose the hutch
before your wife
six months pregnant sees

the rabbit. later
she can launder your sweaty
overalls & empty the few
black rabbit
pellets your pockets
caught. in the closet you

change & relishing the bachelor
scents of your underwear
drop it to your father-in-law's
bathroom floor. now your voice

weighs nothing though
you sing.