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# Scrape That Starts the Fire

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*Scrape That Starts the Fire*

I

You keep others away to keep the wound  
for yourself.

In your ardor,  
it resembles a signal fire, a commotion  
of spark and flame, an alarum meant to warn (again)  
others away.

There is nothing now but the wound and its warmth

II

and you within it.

The way you are held  
within it, a thing rubbed beyond  
ardor, blush, rubescence, a figure meant to lose itself  
along the way.

Your body, the shadow of the wound, the red  
that runs

III

through everything.