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Party Guest Arriving Late

Ashley Martin

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Party Guest Arriving Late

by Ashley Martin

Her forearms are bare
brown and without
sex's soft shape.
A calloused elbow
secures the gift
in waistless space
above no hips,
hair blowing north behind her.

She skips the ditch
between sidewalk
and parking lot:
the girl is late,
the girl is young,
both conditions require speed.

