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the grandparents

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the grandparents

by Cole Rachel

so undisturbed they might as well have been nothing more
than hillbilly salt and pepper shakers, bought probably
for too much money at dogpatch usa, dollywood
or any gift shop in branson, and it's as if *they* live on a shelf
surrounded by theme parks represented in china
plates and an enameled cedar plaque which read
if momma says no, just ask grandma
i'm warmed by the idea of family hee-haw,
that i could come from those who would buy their own likeness
in tableware, those whose only advice for me when leaving is:
it's really all about the right gun, or like squirrel hunting
you make the wrong choice and all you have left
is one front foot and a little piece of tail



Photo by Joel Kendall

