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Part of Adam's Discussion

Dante Di Stefano

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PART OF ADAM'S DISCUSSION

by Dante Di Stefano

It was like those hours you spent with your daughter when she was learning to speak but couldn't quite yet stutter out more than a string of sweet "dadas" and "mamas." This is Eden, my Eve: the wobble of a toddler's walk, the way she points at a blackbird on the powerlines out the window, the way she collapses onto your chest when she's ready to nap. I would hold all this love in so much unsaying. It was like that, and when it was, you knew it never would be again. Our first words are always: "The End."

Dante Di Stefano

Dante Di Stefano is the author of *Ill Angels* (Etruscan Press, 2019) and *Love Is a Stone Endlessly in Flight* (Brighthorse Books, 2016). His poetry, essays, and reviews have appeared in *Best American Poetry 2018*, *Academy of American Poets Poem-a-Day*, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, and elsewhere.). Along with María Isabel Álvarez, he co-edited the anthology *Misrepresented People: Poetic Responses to Trump's America* (NYQ Books, 2018). He holds a PhD in English Literature from Binghamton University and is the poetry editor for *DIALOGIST*.



SARCASTIC BEGGAR

"We parked in front and I heard the music, felt the bass and my dad got out and told me and my mom to wait and I knew those kids were in trouble because that music was too loud and they better hope there aren't any cuss words because my dad barged in when I was taking a shower and took my Slipknot CD because it cussed."

— Jacob Collins-Wilson



BACK TO TOP