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what do I wear to the funeral

what do i wear to the funeral

red & red  
match heads  
between my teeth

magnets  
strapped to the hips

will bring my arms down  
on either side

a steel wire through  
the spine  
sends them

back

up

what do i wear to the funeral

an mussel opening  
a thumbnail

to slip between the knots  
hook & peel

rings for your fingers  
so thread them

& suspend me from cranes

what do i wear to the funeral

a blink  
& blank harness for foal knees

a dress that spills me like yarn  
to coil beneath  
the pews

what do i wear to the funeral

a prediction  
a thermometer

measure me in inches  
lift the hood

running red under rows  
of timber

push down until you hit bone  
& wait

what do i wear to the funeral

a hospital smile  
some ruse

to pink the body before me

a laced arm  
clamped by bone

mother's reminder  
ribboning the plait

what do i wear to the funeral

my five remaining teeth  
to concave or to cave

the question of shells

*mother must we pack the soil so heavy?*

what do i wear to the funeral

rigor or defeat

the question of hamlet  
decorating my knife hand

a rose on my forehead

everybody kisses  
as they leave