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## Self-Manicure

Jack Shadoian

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## SELF-MANICURE

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Jack Shadoian

always bungle up  
in cold,  
nightingale your bed,  
perhaps your tongue,  
and brake your wind;  
years, idle years,  
of ice-age advice—  
adagio, undear;  
the trill of sex  
and kisses sleet;  
low jobs and  
below jobs,  
jaw-work indiscreet—  
but lovely, lovely.

school trigosymmetry  
and crocus tones;  
comely Mr. Cash, the chorus boy,  
fantasias  
of male gyration, oh!  
in Spartan style;  
coats for ants,  
lungs for stones;  
thumb-like lakes; guys  
quick as fleas;  
tightness, terror,  
blood and rain;  
peace in toilets,  
smoke on earth.

*Amherst, MA*