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Endings

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ENDINGS

Alan Yount

For Alan Jones

the idea of an ending
implies there was
a beginning.

in some month
twenty-three years ago
we started
to do things together.

great trips!
floating the missouri river
in all seasons;
dinners at house of chow

and just basic face to face
talking it out
over dinners at our houses.

and finally
after the movers had gone,
sitting on the bare living room floor
of your house
for the last time,

telling each other
"we would try
to see each other often."

an ending is not an end:
it is the continual absence
of what still
might have been.

Columbia, Missouri