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Drawing [woman]

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After the Parade

by Robert Benson

You were the prettiest girl in class
and that's what troubled you in dreams
when all the boys were begging you
for just one lift of your pink dress.

You wanted to, and yearned for much more,
but the difficult thing was choosing
between the shy local stars
who fumbled with your brassier.

So you tasted many warm lips
and offered your smooth flesh
to many inexperienced hands
before you locked your legs around the man

who would be your husband, later,
when selection was narrowed to one,
and the choice wasn't yours anymore:
all the homecoming floats melting in the rain.

