

Carol M. Spizman

Women of Healthy Stock

It is the unfortunate curve of hip
moon-like roundness, radiant arc of thigh
shape for which my grandmother paid
dearly attracting men like locusts in Poland
taking the crops. They took
her bloom for years now spent, now skinny
in indulgence of their flat, gray hands.
And me, same glowing limbs, same
solid curve, it's not unwillingly
but sadly we come to expect a thresher
come claiming only to harvest
only to stop the gorgeous curve of enough,
of plenty, of you who are too beautiful
to be allowed to stay that way.