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Girl in Woods Pond

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The Girl in Woods Pond

She sweeps by with a long hand
in the thick of her coyote red hair
that burns her ashen tan
and crisps her freckled shoulders.
She is always in the pond,
a white orb in the dusky water.
When her body's dry, her wiggling toes
keep in wet contact
with the smooth dock
while she counts the planks she rests on:
three through ten.
She watches the sunset
on the opposite shore—
a slow drooping eyelid of a shadow
creeping lower over the trees.
She drops a hand in the water
and rubs glitter from her eyelids,
hand to water again.
Her open eyes see the shiny flecks resting
on the surface with reflected stars,
where she can grab them by the handful.

Jess Haberman, '06