The Road / Richard Jackson

Giving himself entirely to the road he walks to the wreck of the buick, remembers the car he found once with the two moving inside it, the whole car rocking as if something invisible drove it through the field and now he climbs in, clutches this wheel giving himself entirely to this dream where he drives across a field past mice who have tunneled their secret holes in abandoned mattresses, the insects sticking to his windshield, though now he does not know where he is nor the girl on the seat beside him as they stop in a field like this where they do not speak as they climb into the back seat, where she gives herself entirely to him giving himself entirely to the road.

The Map / Larry Levis

Applying to Heavy Equipment School I marched farther into the Great Plains And refused to come out. I threw up a few scaffolds of disinterest. Around me in the fields, the hogs grunted And lay on their sides.

You came with a little water and went away. The glass is still on the table, And the paper, And the burned scaffolds.

You were bent over the sink, washing your stockings. I came up behind you like the night sky behind the town. You stood frowning at your knuckles And did not speak.

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