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After Love You Put a Comma

Jason Snart
College of DuPage

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JASON SNART

after love you put a comma

says my wife to our daughter
who is piecing together Valentine's
for every kid in the class,
even ones we don't like. Hearts,
stickers, glue: the usual mess
at the dinner table, with her wrong-
facing numbers and d's like b's.

And there I am, do you see me,
as I want to be seen, sitting, trying
so hard to imagine how this moment could be
a poem. How I need to tell
somebody about why this matters, why after love
you put a comma.