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## The Baking Lesson

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# The Baking Lesson

– Barbara Armbruster

"Got no arm on you, girl,  
No arm at all," she'd say,  
Yanking the bowl  
From my unresisting grasp,  
Demonstrating how to beat  
With a righteous fury  
Not just reserved for cakes.

An arm strong for beating cakes  
Was nothing to me.  
Besides, sometimes the rules changed  
And she'd say, "Dough toughens  
If you knead more than 14 times."

No, a strong arm was nothing  
In the relentless beating  
Of her will on mine.

Now, in the gym I lift  
The iron weights  
In a kind of toast to her.  
"Got arms on me now, Grandma,  
This woman got arms."