

Fall 12-1-1986

Black Hair

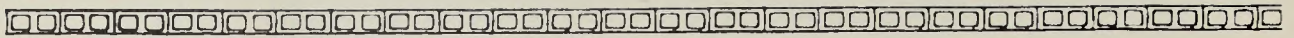
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BLACK HAIR

Hector Mirande

When I had black hair I did black-haired things
sweet arrogance, undomesticated
not yet immersed in the rank sweat of limitation

Socializing bit and halter, real
as the tendon rendering, stale breath of age
not quite crushing, not yet snuffing the desperate gait

When I had black hair I knew black-haired things
not knowing that I was, one glimpse ever wasted
for the lie of future, of the more appropriate time

Gray alibis clothed in eloquence
garbed in purple ever Royal
wisdom with the mask of doing or at least of having done

When I had black hair I remembered black-haired things