

Kevin Canty
Alice Munro

I don't know how he can keep on being funny every day. You would think that one of these days he would have to run out of gas, but he doesn't.

Karen Malley
Sparkly Skirt

"Carass is a word for a creature that is dead," I tell him. "But it isn't a word you use for something that you cared about when it was alive."

Erika Krouse
North of Dodge

Their car crashed on the way home from a church fundraiser. The last thing they did on this earth was eat hotdish and watch a polka band.

Matthew Lansburgh

Interview by Jacqueline Kolosov
Figuring out the best configuration of those strands, the best organization, the best shape is the challenge.

Victoria Alejandra Garayalde
Prométeme | *prom'eteme* | (*verb*)

To Grandpa José, the only difference between Italians and Puerto Ricans was the starch: Italians ate pasta while Puerto Ricans ate rice.

Marian Palaia
Wild Things

It was the late sixties, early seventies, and people were blowing things up all over the country, pissing off presidents, driving J. Edgar Hoover crazier than he already was.

Ashley Alliano
Do Something

"It doesn't get more American than this," he says. "I suppose not."

Danielle Lizarin

Interview by Jeremiah Chamberlin
So sometimes I see stories as my way of moving through the questions of my life as they come up.

Emily Lackey
Trust Me

There's a beginning, a middle, and an end to every story, she said, and somewhere in the middle, something has to change.

Ed Allen
The Whistle Car

For us, the color of a baseball was not white, but an organic brown, with a hard glaze of dirt and grass, the warmest color in the world.

Stanley Delgado
Bicho, Bicho

There was this one man my family knew, Berto, a bricklayer, and his knees were so bad that he went to church one day and kneeled down to pray and found out he couldn't get back up. Well, a lot of us thought it was some kind of sign.

Sindya Bhanoo
Nothing Like Ice Cream

For years, my parents were unwilling to buy a plane ticket to go anywhere except India, but the year I turned fourteen, they splurged.

Arthur Russell
Jaime

...home to the Italian Catholics who had displaced the Methodists, who displaced the Germans, who displaced the Dutch settlers who had colonized this land on the north end of the parcel that quote unquote was sold to Robert Treat by the Leni Lenape...



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*"In two straight lines they broke their bread
and brushed their teeth and went to bed."*
Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans, 1939

Robin Haley

Bright Ideas for Residential Lighting
So there was nothing for him to do but go and see. He couldn't imagine anything useful coming of it, but there it was.

Arthur Klepchukov
*The Unfinished Death
of My Grandfather*

I wanted her to sleep like she wanted me to sleep.

Christa Romanosky

Ways to Light the Water on Fire
We agree. They are terrible. They don't have the right. It feels good, the three of us like that, all directing our hate like that.

Rachael U. Clifford

What the Year Will Swallow
Many people find themselves in trouble simply because they fail to go to bed early.

Douglas Kiklowicz
I Used to Be Funny

I wasn't bored. I had big things to avoid thinking about.

Aleyna Rentz
Mary Sees the World

It's an absurd question—how can anyone be sure they're going to be all right?

Alex Stein

Tyger Burning Bright
Eventually, we climbed out of that dip, too. We had known one another so long, it would have been a shame to throw everything away in confusion.

Peter Parsons

Elvis, Alive and Limping

Elvis is ageing, he limps, he is considered a holy man. I always knew this about him, knew he had it in him if only his wife, girlfriends, managers, drug suppliers, producers would have let him be.