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94

Philip Fullman

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Philip Fullman

Golfers will tell you
 they'll hit 100 bad shots
 to hit one
 where the sweet spot of the club
 meets the sweet spot of the ball
 making the sound you always think of
 when you think of a golf ball being hit
 driving the ball straight down the fairway
 the club feels so good in your hands
 you forget the last 100 shots
 the one in the trees
 the one you lost
 taking a drop
 the one you sliced so badly on 9
 it hit a cart at the tee box on 8
 all forgotten
 ready to hit 100 more
 into the sand
 the rough
 and the water hazard
 just to hear that sound

Poetry's the same
 you write 100 bad poems
 about the girl who cheated on you
 or the one you think cheated on you
 but could never prove
 but that's okay because you cheated on her
 that time you told her you were out of town
 when you were actually down the street
 spending the weekend with that girl
 you both work with that she can't stand
 that you want to sleep with
 but act like you can't stand
 so she won't think anything is going on

just to write that one poem
 the one you don't cringe when you read
 the one that's as good on paper
 as it was in your head
 the one a reader gets
 even though they had to work for it
 giving you a type of bond with them
 encouraging you to write 100 more
 abusing metaphors
 comparing sailing to freedom
 love to just about everything
 and golf to poetry



UNTITLED 2 Norma Jean Montejano