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Centralia

Rebecca Frazier

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Sailor's Delight James Goodman

Centralia

Rebecca Frazier

Nobody strikes a match
Quite like the Keystone State
Presses smoldering lips
To Mother Nature's
Incendiary face

She has been blushing
For well over half a century
A courtship that burns so hot
That all it leaves in its wake
Is barely an afterthought

It will outlast us
For untold lifetimes

In nineteen sixty-two
Centralia woke up
Experienced an adrenaline rush
Within its network
Of powder-keg veins

No man could quell or contain
Centralia is quite literally
Bursting at the seams
Producing enough fire to forge
Timeless American ghost stories
The haunting of a place
That simply ceased to be