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## Nude

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## *Nude*

Actually, more naked than nude as it turned out,  
a disappointment; the only thing remotely decadent  
old polaroid — diseased yellow.

We were not entranced. You awarded the picture  
to me without comment. Eventually, it appeared  
in my desk at school in the shallow top drawer

Reserved for all the accessories of the job. Every  
once in a while, I would take a peek to see if it  
had somehow become obscene or at least a little arty.

No luck. So gradually, I succumbed to ambivalence.  
One afternoon feeling guilty, I tried to tear it up.  
But, of course, polaroid doesn't tear so easily.

In the end, I had to use scissors. Then, confronted  
by such calculated desecration, suddenly felt remorse.  
I couldn't dispose of the body.

And that was lucky. For as usual, in disarray  
everything came right between us. So there you lie,  
scattered among my classcards and staples. Here

A breast, there a thigh, arms and that famous smile,  
and at this moment, I'm smiling too. I think that we  
are lovers still.

*David Evans*