

Winter 2015

October, North Hero

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OCTOBER, NORTH HERO

Count peregrines nesting
off the causeway, isthmus, interstate.

Inventory: count
isthmus after isthmus. Your neck is an isthmus.

Count fence posts. Count forks and spoons. Count
coil after coil of rope. Then, give up on numbers.

Start to start and end the day on your knees.
Wake up in time to watch the day veer off

on horseback towards the isthmus,
towards the village where nooses are painted

on the backs of doors. Start to leave
the house at night. Take dance lessons in the village.

Go to the festival where scarecrows hang
in nooses off the pillars. This is how

they can stay upright
all night. Wink at them. Tap loose

your longings through the soles of your shoes.
Unbutton, make cuffs of your grief.