

Spring 1977

## At the Scene

John Weins

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## AT THE SCENE

The pictures  
aren't painted so easily anymore.  
I labored a night  
at a murder scene.

I stood there  
writing a poem  
using the cold hands for reference,

systematically  
checking my pulse when it raced,  
and then afterwards  
at the typewriter  
I knew the correct order  
of events.  
Flinching to avoid the collision course  
with death  
that my uncle and others  
have taken,  
and the shaping of the eyes,  
the pupils that roll on forever  
in the dreams of the onlookers.