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At the Pass Dam

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Carol Ebbecke

At the Pass Dam

Three terrible slim-hipped brothers dance along the banks in the dim evening of August, looking for the spot to swim away from, their postures so alike

they skim the surface of faces, of possibilities, they hold the backs of their necks that straight. Three brothers with faces quiet enough

to hold hostage a hundred other boys. It's never enough for them to have wives, or women even, but other men and in this swimming

they find the ends of their pitch, what each brother strives for in the end of binding himself to another, without heartbeats. Without shutting out that quiet resemblance, they push off.