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At Circe's Farm

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At Circe's Farm

Bohemian rednecks smoke, drink and spit in the flatbeds of pick-ups papered with Grateful Dead emblems. The other ones stomp bootsoles in the pasture, mindless of cow shit and fleeing crickets, dancing to the whirring rhythm of a near-by hay-baler. I spit thick globules of tobacco juice into a plastic Pabst cup and rise in a rush of nicotine, alcohol, and marijuana to join in dance with a howling girl spinning in the bed, catching the rhythm we begin a waltz without structure, dipping and leaping, rocking the truck to our own time. Our limbs become entangled, losing control she slides into me, and I flail on the edge and try to pull back until I am forced to release myself to gravity and mud. Snorting, I attempt to get up again only to fall back, further bathing in manure, loam, and water. Her milk hand grasps mine, muddied, and pulls me up from the cess. She laughs at my pigness and leaves me snorting with the rest of the herd.

Matt Layne