Reconstructing Barbie

Amanda Green*

*Iowa State University

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Reconstructing Barbie

By Amanda Green

I chased a carrot on a treadmill
bleached my hair a sunny blonde
baked my skin a freckled brown
under ultra-violet bulbs
got myself a French Manicure
and the boys did look

One day some Ken in a bar
slid an arm around my waist
asked me through Bud Light breath
has anyone ever told you
you look just like a Barbie
and I guess I was supposed to be flattered

But instead, I turned around
on those hard plastic stilettos
and took off out of there

And the next day
I traded in those bony hips
for a hot ham and cheese on rye
got my hair back to its brown roots
snapped off those glossy nails
and found out

I like to write

'Bout the only thing that stayed the same
is this grin
which is more now from knowing
instead of pretending

And I am still melting this plastic
and looking for the soft self underneath