

# Two Pennies

Jeff Landgraf

In the morning I stared at the screen  
Certain I could save a factor of ten or more  
As certain not a person alive could care

You knew I was falling in love  
It's because I care for you so, you said  
Because I don't want to hurt you  
Because I simply must run

I turned my back to the screen fired with the urge to run myself  
And was in the deep wood when I reached into my pocket to silence the clang of change

The quarter I launched from frustration, it smacked from tree to tree  
A dime for the loathing I felt for myself  
Another for hatred of men and their destruction wrought of ignorance and fear  
A nickel for sorrow  
Finally, the end of the road arrived, two pennies left in my hand

I lifted one to my lips, a kiss that you might find the best you you can be  
before I let it loose into the lush green  
The second I lifted with an identical prayer but for me  
and knowing the impossible odds against  
two pennies coming someday to rest  
in the same spot  
I sent it to follow

I returned to the screen eyes blurred  
Mind muddy and hot  
And there, before the stark screen full of words  
Suspended myself among the invisible threads of logic