

IN WHICH YOUR DAUGHTER MAKES FRIENDS  
WITH THE NEIGHBOR BOYS

and suggests truth or dare but  
when dared to kiss the one boy  
pecks him on the shoulder  
“real quick” and is “that  
is gross” innocent limbed and

does not see how the older boy  
puts words in the mouth of the younger  
how he is ain’t no fun if the homies  
can’t have none gonna get himself  
a kiss and your daughter is just six

stands sway back belly forward  
one knee cocked and just wants her  
turn so she can say something gross  
to do like bugs or butts

but has been too beautiful meaning  
“are you prepared to lock her up/  
you are gonna need to watch out”  
from the moment she learned to smile

and it’s today, right now, for the first time  
you ever want to really do this;  
think of thick walls and locking doors

you can see how she’s enough  
to be a mouthful and they  
are already drooling.