

# POETRY BY THE PAGE

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## THE POET-MECHANIC GOES HUNTING RATTLESNAKES

KATHARYN MACHAN AAL

carrying a wrench  
instead of a forked stick,  
a wooden toolbox  
instead of a burlap sack.  
He marches into the desert  
determined to find diamondbacks,  
espies instead  
a single cactus blossom  
redder than any rust  
and halts to marvel  
at this beauty worthy of his metaphors.  
Coiling his thoughts  
he rests on a rock,  
lets the sun guide his pen  
across the page.  
Dusk descends; he remains,  
oblivious to a clacking of tails,  
the glitter of eyes  
waiting for perfect moonlight.