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## The Etiology of Fainting

as a radical you
are a disappointment but it's all relative

in the harem you are nothing but a scandal in the vicarage

loose the stays of your corset
(whales of seven seas miss their bones)

teach buttons to march up your boots
a regiment phalanx of palaver

in the time it takes to stretch a canvas or a dress
on a dummy the time it takes to mix oils
the minute it takes to look
and measure

the body melts and you can't

get air into your lungs
your browning vision is not the browning version
a faint
ring in your ears reminds you
what you wanted
was ten minutes to yourself