ROBERT CANZONERI

The Will

"I keep clean garments in the bottom drawer."
She showed her niece, pleased

That loose flesh hung
From bony arms, satisfied

That she'd endured so long
Her nether parts would never hold
Embalmers' eyes, assured

Even in dreams no
Other woman's man in
Her tight circle,
easing
Unsteady legs past where
She lay stiff as
Life, would falter,
imagining
The underlings of
Undertakers
fingering
Her underthings.

Canzoneri, Robert. "The Will." The Cornfield Review Special Issue (1978-1979): 18.
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