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Scouting the Other

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Scouting the Other

In the vest pocket park
where would-have-been
is, I sport an eagle feather,
wear a diamond in my ear, am a priest.

I meet a woman,
sponge in her right hand, in her left a pie,
and down I go
on one knee to kiss the chipped paint
on those cheese-rind dowels,
her toes.

A crowd appears—
a chubby man who sweats
and can't breathe in, a teenage girl
who could just throw herself into a hole,
a man leading a pig, a mother
who has one place setting too few,
another lady who makes the best coffee—
and for several passings of the sun
I sit with beaded eyes
listening to each relate how he or she
is kin to Adam
and all that time I am one,
I say, without even trying I am one
of them, and I am happy
in that vest pocket park.