Orgasm

David LaBounty

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Orgasm

Abstract
my nine year old
asked me what
an orgasm is

Keywords
orgasm, metaphor, definition, father, son
Orgasm

by David LaBounty

my nine year old asked me what an orgasm is

and I was absent for the answer

I was typing words on the screen while he was watching another screen

so he asked me again
he asked me,
dad, what's an orgasm?

and I found
shelter in
my absence
and said,
I didn't know

and he said,
yes you do, you know everything

I shrugged my
shoulders and
left my absence
but only
for a moment
the way one
leaves the
umbrella
to barely
touch the rain

I turned my
eyes to the
ceiling
and said,

an orgasm
is the
tool that
god uses
to keep
creation
moving,
kind of
like the
way the 
earth opens
just enough
to swallow
the seed
dropped
by the tree

my son looked
at me and said,

dad, I don't think
that's what it is

David LaBounty has held jobs as a miner, a mechanic, a reporter and a salesman. His work has appeared in Rattle, the Los Angeles Review, Night Train, the New Plains Review and several other journals. He is the author of the novel Affluenza. He lives in Michigan.