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Yearlong Abroad

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Lambert: Yearlong Abroad

YEARLONG ABROAD

R.J. Lambert

—for Dean

Brother/fighter,
time competes for you.

A child's rhyme,
threadbare, barren beyond
our peers even:

girls with thin curls
were blond in black & white,

smoke like fingers
laying their heavy heads
to bed.

If I've earned a holiday,
give me your Spain

from all four poles, your Portugal,
a continent widening
in the belly of water.

Diving depths for rocks
is a native danger, heretofore.

So tender a toreador:
I have not
worked all my life.