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## Heathen child find a god

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### **Cover Page Footnote**

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In love is every man a boy alone  
 in a parked car taking candy from a stranger  
 while everybody else is in the store  
 retrieving pennies for ford foundation gum  
 Robbing the poor box of incognito passion  
 this sacrilegious child will rub  
 police protected powder staining purple  
 his arms and legs and face for one woman  
 She will wash him with her oily tears  
 and dry hair he will mark with reverence  
 and open mouth his signature bound  
 by the tip of her tongue to never call again  
 himself one person and aspirined in the fever  
 of enlightened pleasure the end of all endeavor  
 he will train to learn that every joy  
 will dike sorrow against his straining fear  
 They will dent shelter in dark rooms  
 with dead flashlights in newsy corners  
 to tell each other of themselves  
 and be no longer strangers but inmates  
 in the unlocked tabernacle of one orange pulse  
 raising their eyelids in rhymed communal awe  
 prostrate at a gate that bars no road  
 but opens to a sandy ocean stretching  
 far beyond the horizon of reason  
 He will run in eager time  
 to the sound of his own heartbeat  
 through the silver field of happened  
 so that she will have to tell him that  
 not until he hears their child  
 may he grow a beard.

—THOMAS HUGHES