

# The Basement of Desire

*by* Bill Yarrow

sooner or later you realize  
that all the leftover wood you've been saving  
all the scraps of PVC pipe in the utility closet  
all the plumbing nuggets you've squirreled away  
all the used sandpaper  
loose roofing nails  
railroad spikes  
iron filings  
copper battery caps  
coils of solder  
cylinders of tin  
carafes of glue  
single hinges  
tubs of bulbs  
nylon cord  
bladeless hacksaws  
rusted caulk guns  
bent nails  
blunt screws  
broken hammers  
brittle gaskets  
sleeves of galvanized washers  
leftover shims  
insulation kits  
cans of mineral spirits  
screen door hardware  
drawers of squeeze nozzles  
noxious solvents  
the whole haberdashery of plastic pieces  
sheathing connectors and containers  
is just a metaphor  
of shifting meaning

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representing  
sequentially  
and recursively  
your childhood  
your body  
your marriage  
and your mind

