

# abalone fishing

*by* Ed Higgins

abalone fishing

after several beers this woman told me once  
(when I was maybe 15)

while we were waist deep  
in cold Pacific tidewater

having a baby was  
(well) like shitting a football

whoa (I said), noooooo shit!!

amazed, as I slid my pry bar carefully  
under an abalone foot

as close to the encrusted rock as  
possible, so as not to injure

the vulnerable creature which  
has no blood clotting capabilities

which experiences no surprise  
lifting it slowly to pop loose.

