

Real As Your Underwear

by Shawn Misener

He predicted narwhals would take to flight
because
like unicorns they would shed normalcy
in favor of mystical beast status

I held out the five dollar bill
reread his sign out loud
“proffissy for a price”

yes yes yes he nodded

but I don't care about narwhales
or mystical beasts as a whole
if you really must know

not worth five dollars I concluded

no no no he shook his head
everybody should care greatly
when unicorns took to flight
the poles shifted
the world flooded
and Pangaea busted open like calloused palm

so unicorns... they came before the dinosaurs?
I smirked

he spit at my toes and gruffly asked
if I really bought that Darwin-shit
no such thing as dinosaurs
bible says so, explicitly

but unicorns...

I started

real as your underwear

he insisted,

snatching my money and running

leaving his crutches like lonely giraffe bones

