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Sessional spa time

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My nails creep

p

u

from under a silver lining.

The polish is called

“Unfrost my Heart.”

It’s time to wipe them clean,

layer another color.

Maybe

“On Pinks and Needles”?

I like it when the job is fresh and untarnished -

that brief period

before digging through your purse

for a credit card,

keys.

Or before

washing two-day old dishes and

scuffing them up,

leaving remnants of red curry

On sore palms, peanut butter under

square cut flesh-spades.

(that’s borrowed from Shakespeare;

I like how his description is both hard

and soft,

with fluctuating nutrition).

So renew my teaching contract and

fill my cap.

I have manicured

pedagogy

to offer.