

# Postcard

—For Magen

*Holly Welker*

I debated hours, whether to send you a kiss  
by the river or the overabundant lips  
of a Rosetti madonna. You get both: See  
the pansies the madonna holds? That's how I know  
she thinks of the kiss I kept for myself.  
Lately, even the most casual touch makes me  
flinch, but I find my fingers linger too long  
on every light switch. Is everything a metaphor  
for something else? It's hard not to see  
waking adored one morning and alone the next  
as one more reason why life is ridiculous.  
I am angry and confused to know there are people  
who love me, until I think of you. You  
are the friend I remember with hosannas and  
crossed fingers. Please send me a beautiful picture  
with nothing but ten outrageous words  
written on the back. As always, yours.

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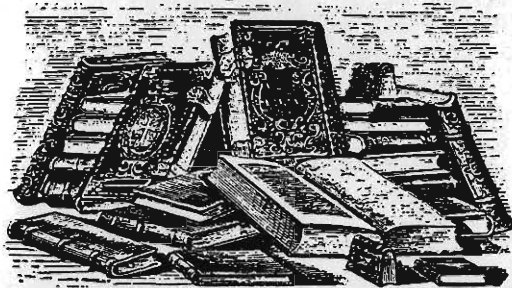
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