



H A R K H E R A L D

1. vasectomy at age 20 poem

a fictional wife co-signed his paperwork,
so, in the end, they do not ask him too many questions.

his gown is made of blue polyester;
men wear beautiful dresses
each time in life that a knife
presses between their legs.

a factory in japan manufactures needles
thinner than a strand of hair.
they have made their way across an ocean,
across borders, through warehouses,
into the smooth hands of a doctor,
and now — quickly slipped inside of him.

snip snip

in the recovery room, he is given orange juice,
an ice pack, a password for the guest wi-fi.

a poster with a smiling cartoon tree says
his bandages are made of recycled materials;
the paper that wraps his scrotum
was a broadsheet, in a past life.
he hopes only bad news was ever printed there.