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Thanksgiving

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THANKSGIVING

Sadie J. Martin

We gather knowing we must
sit straight in our chairs and
fold our hands in thanks.

Take what you want,
but eat what you take.

The colonel begins
scolding the potatoes, the meat,
then you.

Eyes stay focused
on your folded hands
still in your lap.

Uncle Adam plucks another
Budweiser from its plastic
casing, and cousin Mary
helps her double chin to
one more ladle full of gravy.

Here, I realize how I am
thankful — thankful for all
of the things I have stopped
feeling. 