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Pick A Star

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pick a star.

peel it from
the celestial cobalt seas,
as savagely as you would
peel the skin
off a tangerine
(to devour it whole
and sever citrus intestines
between your teeth).
let the rind of it
play hide-n-seek
in the depths
of your nail beds
so that perhaps
everything you touch
(your Siamese cat,
your lover's breast
that chest of
forgotten sepia snapshots
of your father before he died;
God rest his soul)
is stained permanently
with a gloriously golden hue
(the color of labrador retrievers,
of freshly snipped blonde locks
on the barber's floor,
of halos...)

Katelyn Spalding