



Oregon Coalition
Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Patience

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Patience takes another breath
Patience knows where her feet are
Patience sorts white buttons and practices
calligraphy with a brush
Patience soaks the grain overnight
for breakfast
Patience gives her hair
the full hundred strokes
Patience explains from the beginning
again
Patience doesn't hurry anyone
even with a sigh
Patience waits like a cat
at a mouse hole
Patience waits
for asparagus sprouts
When Patience comes home at night
she takes a slow bath with candles
and sets her heart by the back door
illuminating the garden
all night long