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Horse Trailer

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Horse Trailer

By David Salner

One night, I heard a farmer unhooking a horse trailer
on the street in front of my house. I hurried out
as he was fumbling in the darkness, loosening

the coupler, dropping it on the road, leaving me
with three tons of pintos. He couldn't wait for the thanks
I would have given on behalf of the food pantry—

he had to drive home, to fields full of corn and pintos,
soybeans, a herd of beef cattle, to a life that would leave him
with nothing but the dirt under his nails and who he is.