

Lint

by [Brenda Fritsvold](#) in the [March 18, 2015](#) issue

My teenage son gestures  
towards his jacket, asks me how to clean  
out pockets and I realize  
he's never had to turn  
anything completely inside-out before,  
never had to take something that was designed  
to serve a good and useful purpose  
and pull at it, tug until it's wholly reversed  
from its original fashioning so that every lost  
oddment, every needless irritant is set loose  
and finally it's empty. It's not a pocket  
anymore; it can't hold anything  
but the buzzing light from the kitchen  
and these softly flanneled regrets.