



MacQueen's Quinterly: Knock-your-socks-off Art and Literature

By Kate Bowers

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A Centipede in Love

√ Some people think a centipede's biggest problem is finding enough socks.

And I'm not gonna lie. It's an issue.

Others think it's love of the damp.

The arid are always opposed.

But the real crick in the neck is that itch you just cannot scratch.

All those legs and not a one can reach the base of the spine,

That place where a human keeps its hardest diamond of a bone—its sacrum.

Humans like to cup each other's, cradle it.

I should know. I've seen them do it enough.

I've even trekked across a few in the dark, occasionally taken a bite. Watched it swell.

Just leaving them a place to scratch they can't reach.

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