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Cheers

Kendra Bopp

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Cheers

Kendra Bopp

“The dick is optional.”
I heard this as I
passed a group of women
exiting a bar
at what must have been
a very happy hour.
It stayed with me —
spinning in a mind
now startlingly aware
of the opposite sex.
I wondered
at the conversation preceding;
at the group of words needed
to illicit this phallic response.
I imagined it salacious, whispered
in a vodka-loud voice
as girlfriends giggled
and the bartender
looked on,
amused.

Or maybe it was asexual,
the new feminist manifesto,
soon to appear on pastel t-shirts
and button covered jackets;
or be chanted as querulous women
march on the national mall
in power suits
and stiletto heels.

I wanted to follow
these women, to ask,
but I knew no answer
would sate an imagination
so fully engaged, so
I contented myself
with speculation,
and a tumbler of scotch
raised as they
drove away.