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## The Pine Cone Robert Bly

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## **Robert Bly**

### THE PINE CONE

This pine cone, about eight inches long, looks like a trunk that never developed a head. The cone trunk holds out silent and stiffened arms.

When we lift it to the nose, the odor suggests country bars, arguments in parking lots, dwarves who have invented a fuel.

But if the tongue reaches out, sap coats the curly tongue; the lips stick to each other. We feel the difficulty in getting free from silences...the hired man in the spare room...what happened that spring. Don't bother. Our whole family is like that.