The Goldilocks Compulsion
Russell Edson
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THE GOLDILOCKS COMPULSION

An old man wearing a wig made of yellow yarn is eating porridge as
he waits for the three bears to come home. He knows they will punish
him. And why not? Hasn't he earned it?

He wonders if the papa bear will simply give him a good spanking?
He's certainly earned it.

Perhaps they'll make a meal of him. Bears are omnivorous. Whatever
they decide is okay with him.

Perhaps they'll keep him as a love slave. That's okay, too. It's their
right. Good Lord, if he's nothing else, he's certainly a fair-minded old
man.

And so he waited for the three bears with an almost unbearable
excitement...