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Gardening

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Richard Dinges

Gardening

My wife never stops shaping our yard. I measure my age by skeleton bushes and trees that failed to thrive. Wild roses stolen from pasture remember the prairie and expand to recapture what once was theirs, with little pricks in the fabric of time. Now she prunes, nips spring against unruliness. When buds begin to appear, she grows a pile of clipped branches, a bias for new sprouts. I worry she may one day finish with the yard and start on me.