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HEALING ARTS  
*Materia Medica*

The Doctor Magnet  
(For Ray Loomis)

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It's happened to me  
my entire life.

Whenever I wear  
a short-sleeved shirt

they come up to me—  
on the street, in line at

the grocery store, even  
in front of my wife—

people I don't know,  
male and female,

their interest aroused  
beyond self-restraint,

drawn by those plump  
deep red rolled up

edges like sultry  
partly opened lips.

Caught up in the chase  
of diagnosis,

a few even touch  
without asking first,

their pick-up line  
always the same:

*I'm a doctor. Have you  
had this checked?*

They can't help it.  
Like bees to honey.

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