

**Hannah Lindsey**

## **Fairy Tale**

alright: once upon a time,  
a girl in a cloak of symbolic colouration  
meets a magpie on the road.  
like, a big fucking magpie.  
and this magpie says: can you help me?  
and the girl says: no, I'm sorry.  
and the magpie pecks out her eye.  
the left one, I think.  
I don't actually remember that well.  
and the girl says: why did you peck out  
my eye, magpie?  
and the magpie says: fairy tales formally feature  
insufficient details to impart one specific viable  
meaning and are instead cultural constructions  
onto which developing minds can project anxieties  
and sexual confusion without any explicit  
engagement from responsible adult figures.  
and the girl's like: oh, shit