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Untainted

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UNTAINTED

Dustin Brown

I run the vacuum three times a day
and scrub the counters like a machine.
I try to live in a clean way.

I straighten our portraits on display
at three-thirty-two and nine-sixteen.
I run the vacuum three times a day.

My daughter's tried to steal my spray.
I tell her cleaning's so serene.
I try to live in a clean way.

Specks of dust always ferment decay.
Hand sanitizer's an hourly vaccine.
I run the vacuum three times a day.

My husband said he couldn't stay
in a house that smells of sterile tangerine.
I try to live in a clean way.

Scour-two-three, cannot delay.
The filth and thoughts are too obscene.
I run the vacuum three times a day.
I try to live in a clean way.