

As we made love, our scars met  
*Tom C. Hunley*

grazing long enough for mine to say,  
“He tries to hide me,”  
and for yours to reply,  
“I know I embarrass her.”

“He never learned how to swim,” whispered my scar.  
“She got picked last in gym class,  
then cried into her pillow,” replied yours.

Just then, a huge wound opened in me.  
You touched it. It closed.  
I was filled, fully healed, and I knew  
I would never be able not to love you.

Tom C. Hunley is a professor of English at Western Kentucky University, the director of Steel Toe Books, and lead singer/guitarist of Dr. Tom and the Cartoons. He has two books forthcoming in 2015: *Plunk*, a full-length poetry collection (Wayne State College Press) and *Creative Writing Pedagogies for the Twenty-First Century*, a collection of essays co-edited with Alexandria Peary (Southern Illinois University Press). He divides his time between Kansas and Oz.