

# Thumbtack

Vic Chesnutt

take a lightbulb from the closet and replace the one above the faucet  
scrape the whisker from my face  
nick my lip in pointless haste

take a magic marker  
blacken a spot on the map of a county on the coast  
where I was born out of a ghost

underneath the ceiling fan  
contemplate a master plan  
breathe a sigh of recognition  
for a childhood superstition

push a thumbtack in the wall  
pierce the picture I did draw  
it's a graphic portrait from my youth  
it hurts my heart this forced review