



PROJECT MUSE®

American Husband

Wayson, Kary

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LOVE IS NOT A WORD

Sweet La
my Dee Da, my daughter's
an idea.

I could break her bready body
from the sweaty blankets of the bed.
I could hold her head.

I would comb her hair.

A dove is not a word, but love
is a lisper.

A telephone is not an ear
but the last time I tried, I could hear
your fear: the egg

in the air. You're the bird,
I'm the bear.

What we did have.
Where we did go.
What we do.