Where She Always Was

Lindsay, Frannie

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UNDERNEATH

Then I would spring from the pool’s dark end, kick as he showed me, and lock my arms around his goosefleshy middle.
I touched it by accident: his nipple pebbly under my stuttering thumb; I knew what it was yet I rolled it between the wrinkles even a young girl gets on her fingers from playing too long in the water; and yes I knew the twinge that dove from his chest to the droop in his swim trunks then rose, the head of a child who finally could tread, up squinting and straining like me, for air.