

the HARLEQUIN

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The missing boy had been missing his entire life, since the moment of birth, but still, everyone in the town grieved, and everyone in the town looked everywhere for him. They looked in the trees first, and then the basements. They drained the ponds, and let the hounds run wild. After a while, everyone in town thought that the missing boy’s family had killed him, but the missing boy had never had a family. Some people thought maybe he was killed by coyotes, and some people thought maybe he fell in love and just moved away. But none of this was true of course. The missing boy was simply missing and always had been. There is nothing special about him.

from *Agnes The Elephant*

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