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ILLINOIS PET DUBBED WORLD'S TALLEST COW

—online headline, Associated Press, 10/15/14

She was, in fact, already a cow.
 And already the tallest. Just not yet
 dubbed. A good dubbing:
 that's the news here, my fellow pet-lovers.
 Illinois is the home of Chicago, and a cow
 mythologically burned
 that city to a crisp, but a real cow

didn't. And now this bovine dubbed Blossom,
 (the misspelling the owner's)
 placed the state on the Yahoo! News map
 for something that doesn't
 involve blight and guns and the Cubs'
 millionaires and the Italian
 beef and the Art

Institute and O'Hare and poetry
 and blues. Lincoln pretended to be
 from Springfield (for the record:
 his demonym was "Kentuckian"),
 and I'm gambling
 he milked a Holstein or three
 while dreaming of an imaginary boundary

later named the Land of Lincoln.
 What an egomaniac
 you've got to be
 to keep breathing
 or want to become president
 of anything more than
 C.O.W. (Citizens Owning Wagyu)!

Blossom's thirteen. She looks like the world's tallest
 uneaten hamburger
 to foodies prideful of their gluttony.
 But she's a massive flower of flesh in black and white.
 She's moo incarnate. She's a christened ship.
 She's as perfect as Eve in an Eden
 with no Adam to damage her.