

HOPE JORDAN

Once

There were boys who didn't want
my desire it never occurred to me that could
happen I was a girl
I was the one in danger except not always
for some of them I was too much too
smart too hungry too well read
in my father's erotica collection and some of them said
(in so many words) no and not
that and not yet and looking back over
all the versions of myself both wronged and merciless
I want to believe I heard them I want to remember
I stopped