Blue and Green

Robin Hamilton
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Her favorite present is a blue glazed bowl filled with limes, like leaves curled in a palm of wave.

She touches the blue dress, sees the gray lake, but in mid-sentence she forgets his name.

Behind her, the huge trunk of a ponderosa pine disappears into long-needled branches.

In the house, upstairs, behind the chifforobe, hides a trunk filled with her dead brothers' things:

a football trophy, several textbooks, a school annual, three photos that show how brothers can look like sons of different parents. Her father, the patriarch in a cream suit, will be dead in two years.

Her mother will live lonely with her biases. Now, surrounded by ceremony, the name of the man she hopes to love escapes her. She hears rain on a green tent in Brittany. She sees a cabin on Thompson River, blue water, she feels his strong hands. She remembers his name.

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