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For Cassie

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For Cassie

Once, climbing
an old gray mountain, you far distant
a whiff of fear mingled with the laurel of
the promise of my love to you
me born of man sun still low in the morning
sky feeling not the trail before
me, but around the bend

and I came to the cliffs
beyond the trees in warm light
looked down there oaks sycamores
lined the hollow
still my mind on you I closed my eyes

I awoke the sun lower air cooler
night closer
coming down the old granite
with deer bear finch pine
stream
all love

And I longed for your arms.

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