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## The Return

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## THE RETURN

Your hair still blows  
with the wind off the river.  
Geese make arrows with  
the sharp points of their wings  
and spin the eyeball  
through the gray to what we  
once imagined as heaven.

The water is silent.  
Any troller will tell you  
how the current drags men  
further downstream than fish.

You want to believe this river  
has direction,  
that small tributaries up north  
empty into this wide span of gray water,  
that there is a system  
of xylem and phloem  
beneath the bottom  
that guides the water carefully  
to a point where gulls  
appear from behind black rock.

The sky swells  
in one eye:  
the water in the other.  
The moon fat with a full month  
hides the tiny center  
we think of as yolk  
and sucks half our cheek out  
from the bone beneath.

When you undress  
yourself to this, remember:  
The Amish farmer has patience.  
A cold night in late April  
leaves his beard a little longer.  
He believes his tomatoes  
have bloomed small yellow flowers  
and will close to a white inside  
they use for heat.  
The hex sign on his barn  
rotates his wife's face  
in a pattern that keeps  
each season's sorcerer  
beneath the corn.