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Nicole Schulz

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## Eyes are Planets that Close instead of Turn

by Nicole Schulz

My orange thesaurus says orbit is the same as  
Revolution  
and someone years ago underlined  
“Adequate”  
before donating the thesaurus to the church library,  
where I stole it from.

There are days that feel like spinning  
and years that go in circles but don't quite close—  
I orbit the same spaces,  
same faces.

Revolving around the roundabouts on the way home,  
I still pray.

When I arrive, my mother asks  
when I will be going home?  
because she knows I don't live there anymore,  
yet I always orbit back.  
And she calls me brave  
with a certain pain in her pupils:  
round and hurt and home,  
as gravity pulls me away again.