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## Catalyst Seasons

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# CATALYST SEASONS

Jayne Albrecht

Singing a frantic summer tongue,  
Mother smears sweat——like honey——  
from her hair and down her neck.

In another scene I cry gardens  
to trudge through with peach-colored  
rust in the soles of my  
shoes for the next spring.

Mother makes tea to help her throat  
and I peer through our living room window  
sitting in earth, wishing she'd meet my eyes.

Winter solstice promises of graying flowers  
in my gardens, but the comatose  
skeletons of my coneflowers will remain  
expecting water.

Like nothing ever happened.

Mother tilts her head to the April  
rains and sings. Rain soaks into her hair.