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Odd-Man-Out

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Odd-Man-Out

Hawks wheel across the reservoir,
making silence of everything
not part of their courtship,

keening sharply toward the water,
daring the sun to melt their wax,
diving upward, tumbling back.

Five *tobi* challenge my disgust
for a land long quarried dry
of anything that can't migrate.

Three in the air, two in pines:
black-eared kites courting fate,
odd-man-out to catch a mate.