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## My Mother Prays to Dream of Her Dead Father

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she reminds herself later sipping coffee alone  
at the sink,

that it's her sins she's come to claim,  
that for years he will ladle Borscht,  
weep into the salty broth, and heaven,  
when it finally arrives, will be a stretch of beach,  
a dream

of her father, this time holding a golden  
gold-eyed fish above his sun-haloed head.