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## The Hesitant Bird

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# The Hesitant Bird

Natalie March

Memories exit his brain  
like birds heading south for the winter,  
retreating somewhere warm  
to avoid the bitterness of the cold.

But there's always that one bird  
that stays behind,  
afraid of what will happen  
if it forsakes its life completely.

Suddenly, the winged creature comes to him,  
and he remembers everything.

How she was a lovely red-headed Italian,  
undeserving of the cancers that devoured her,  
and he was a jello-loving fatso  
that had a heart attack while on the toilet.

Soon, the memories become too much for him,  
and he releases the bird back into the sky,  
remaining there  
until he's finally ready to accept the truth.