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Allan Peterson

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ALLAN PETERSON

A Few Things Differently

And voluptuous ships I take it
by how the water is against them.
Up to now I had been missing
their loving relationship. And the cedar
how it is the shaggy result
of its many single decisions.
One to pass stylishly past the fence wire
a whispered S in it a melted mood
cambium making a thick wrinkle
as it turns in avoidance like a slow veronica.
All around us are small considerations
at different speeds creatures beings
sharing the same space
that maybe do not see each other but presume
what they know is the whole thing
self-centered like roads to the capitol.
A story/poem has to tear you away to see
just a few things differently
and just for a minute block some things out.
Suppose it were normal for an audience
to gather for the wren in my buckeye.
People pulling off the road to listen
to that single one no longer a machine
with a rote song but nuance and variation.
Or to the wasp that flew up my sleeve
and did not sting but promoted in each other
undivided attention. I could tell them
the face fly with rainbow eyes
or say we should all shave together
and listen to the weather with our skins.