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Sunleaves

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MEGHAN BARRETT

Sunleaves

harvesting, the huntingmoons
struck lore of ill
and reached for brittle-leaves;
curl dry, narrow and spilt
marrow: birds, hallowed
bonefrosting

longer, longer
the deepnight sits on the leaves
confides in their ashen,
halted chloroplasts sun
thirsting and witheraway leaves
break down their fill
stare at a lone
rising star

they are caught up in dying;
anthocyanin burst as
greenpulp fades, and the care-
otenoids tend these agingwisps,
steady firegold revealed
in soft stormspots caressing,
lingers on lovingly,
the weakengrasps
of hard fallen sunleaves