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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