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## Outside Boston

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**Outside Boston**  
by Christina Pugh

After a long sabbatical,  
the sun sends the street  
glassy again: the neighbors'  
bone siding evanesces;  
a clamped tulip  
lightens its striated load,  
and narcissus grazes a well  
in the corner park.

Even the bus driver's bark—  
*You got a lot o' nerve,*  
*parking there—*  
flutes infinitesimally,  
risen from a shock  
of greener world.

The sun was studying  
Pearling—how to skim  
opacity from liquid limbs,  
to amplify the unforeseen:  
so the old nurse  
two houses down,  
veteran of ten thousand lakes,  
wakes today to find herself  
mayor of her town.

“What do you know,”  
she says, rubbing her eyes.  
Outside the window,  
an entourage  
rings her ancient  
station wagon.