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## Woman Without Eyes

Jennifer Chapis

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# Chapis: Woman Without Eyes

MILTON KESSLER MEMORIAL PRIZE

FINALIST

## WOMAN WITHOUT EYES

Jennifer Chapis

Her face like a house  
after a fire's come through.

Her face. The staggering shine  
where her eyes once were—

two dark mouths  
agape, stunned honest.

We have stepped over her fish-like feet  
(one trout, one belly-flopped bass)

ten times since the temperatures dropped.  
The halls of her legs gray and spread out

at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Ninth Street.  
Overhead, fractals in tree-branch icicles.

*Heaven, help us engage a gaze like this—*

The heart, it doesn't know what  
to say—

belligerent, breathless,  
artless

as a tongue without an end,

lung  
frozen to the ground.