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Innocuous

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Johnson: Innocuous

INNOCUOUS

Laura Johnson

Backlit from the pyre,
a relic raised whole
is how desire presses forward,

its foreign city inhabited
on odd or even days
like the chaste blank of a lover

I can imagine some future with,
and do, offering burning gasoline
on the river's bloodstream,

a congregation of possibles
singing like archangels
in the conjugations of eyelash and sigh.

With a brief touch, I promise.
A little taste won't kill us,
might even amend

some sickness
we didn't know existed,
didn't even know we had.