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Kosode (A Short-Sleeved Kimono)

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Stevens: Kosode (A Short-Sleeved Kimono)

KOSODE (A SHORT-SLEEVED KIMONO)

Jeanine Stevens

Grass tips caught in an icy pond
a temple bell frozen in place

peach crystals in bare trees
how each person is embroidered

in remnants of late winter's
neatly swept russet ground

carrying sticks and birds in a
wicker cage, or sitting on a bench.

How easily the needle keeps
the silken threads separate.

In the folds, I find the feather
I was looking for, and there

in the seam, pieces of the crescent
moon from last night—fallen.