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## The Relative Weight

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## Abonado: The Relative Weight

# THE RELATIVE WEIGHT

**ALBERT  
ABONADO**

I know better  
than to say on a scale

of objects, my grandmother's weight  
must fall somewhere

between a small bird  
and a melon, which means

I think of her more  
in terms of ounces,

so I don't ask anyone  
how much fluid a woman

in her condition could possibly  
contain when the nurse wheels her

into the bathroom, since I've already  
taken into account the air

in her lungs among my  
calculations, undecided

if mass has any relationship  
to blindness,

which would then explain  
why she didn't recognize

my mother, although I'm told  
she still counts money

in her spare time, can provide  
the latest exchange rate

if the amount of oxygen  
she receives is consistent.