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CAROLYNE VAN DER MEER

The baby in her belly
(Part II)

59 days
8 hours
and 23 minutes
more
you stayed inside
you said there
was no purchase
that it did not
feel like
home
Yet a part of you
stayed
grabbing
scraping
pulling at my
insides
swelling, burning
No, mommy,
you said
it’s not time yet
Then wordlessly
calmly
you let go
went with the flow
swam outside
your legacy
finally gone
pain
subsides

Carolyne Van Der Meer’s poetry appears earlier in this volume.