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SUSAN E. HARRIS

Ode to a Paradigm

There was a time when I considered you more
than an old reliable friend.
Back then, I was like a fresh cut flower in an
oversized vase,
and the allure of firm solid lines defining your
body
had the power to ground me,
or so it seemed.
I took comfort in those words about truth
you spoke so confidently.
Loyally I followed,
certain you would be there to help me along the
way.
But like the soft pallid petals of a flower past
bloom,
I fell
as you stood at a distance watching
where you did not, indeed could not, catch me.

I fell
landing gently alongside a different yet strangely
familiar form.
Twisting, turning,
trying to maintain my balance,
I began tracing patterns along the contours of
this curious new body.
Here, within the shadowy crevices where bone
gives way to flesh
I heard sounds like echoes,
and my own voice began to resonate.
Soon, I came to re/dis/cover myself
in these curved spaces.

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