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Lost is Not a Place

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Lost is Not a Place

Lost is not a place I have been
unless you count the places on your body
I have touched with the palms of my hands.

Lost is not a place unless I look for you
in the pale blue sweater folded in the closet,
and the black-and-white checkered

one with the zipper up the front, that one,
too, or in the uneven footprints in the carpet.
Lost is not a place I have been unless

You believe me when I say: I can bear this,
I can, if I keep your closet door closed, I can,
and the middle drawer, for today, I can.

Doris Ferleger
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