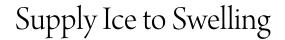
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Supply Ice to Swelling

Palming wasps, I skate diaphanous wingtips into bookmarks—chaptering leaflets of our existence: before age ten & after

I stopped eating radishes (parsed into cubes, fed to your dog under the table). You spent snow days at my hip: a helium balloon brushing stucco

ceiling & refusing to pop. I thought eating gummy worms in my pudding was childish, told you I had a dentist appointment during your birthday—

I gifted sandbox leftovers two days late & you saved me seashells party-favored with nametags: you didn't tear mine apart—hail-stuck eyelashes cracked goodbyes, you exhaled

your frost-breath smile. To cure egos tattooed on scalps: slip icicles through my hair & skim those years for ladybugs hidden on the undersides of leaves.