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Supply Ice to Swelling

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MEGAN NOLAN

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.