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## Hard Wine

Lynn Hoggard

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# Hard Wine

by Lynn Hoggard

Drunk with the bitter truth  
I refuse all other wine.  
—Anna Margolin

Butterfly was reeling from it  
the day Pinkerton finally returned  
to her country with another wife.

The taste of it on her tongue  
made Gretchen go mad, kill her newborn,  
while Faust, oblivious, roamed the earth.

My friend David with cancer  
also drained that draught.  
Knowing there was no way back,

he waited for the bitter brew  
to fill his senses up. And then  
he let it shut them down.