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the negation of being

Kate Olp

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the negation of being



and what, in the absence of all hope
is left, but the negation of being,
something less solid, indirectly
embraced and empty, complacent, or aching
for room to roam free, unbound
by the lackless epithet of wanting
more and needing, the always so
untouched and changing, the
blankness of outstretched fingers
groping dull space or two lips
poised and waiting? what could be
left, but the dull phone ringing and
the white walls breathing and
sweating out this fever dream on wet
sheets or the couch set cold
and stained. wine tainted. like
water color red balloons.
as fading light strains to read the lines
that fingers trace in dust on mantlepieces,
covered in grocery list regrets and
dime store longings, the almost,
as if anything could be better than
this street lamp yawning.

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