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A Pear Between Us

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AZIZA BAYOU

A Pear Between Us

My son sat in my lap,
and I split open
a pear between us.

Together we shared flesh
so ripe—
its sugar drip soaked our chests.

A hummingbird appeared at the window.
Peripatetic heart.
A lingering green.

The golden pear gave its juice
each time his pink gums
bore down.

It poured forth and drenched us
in slanted autumn sun,
a shush with each suck.

The form is passed
from hand to hand,
the course from mouth
to mouth in pairs.