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## Autumn

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## Schumann: Autumn

### AUTUMN

Tina Schumann

You know how the world comes at you like that?  
You're driving down some tree-lined street  
with Vivaldi or Corelli  
lilting their way from the radio.

The sun casting prisms on the leaves,  
the leaves easy in their fall.

All questions have quieted.

You are convinced that even the asphalt is happy  
to be what it is: solid, stoic, the backbone of a day.

Up ahead the next three lights are green,  
you are passing the schoolyard at St. Paul's  
and all the kids in their blue and green uniforms  
are bright angels, bearers of light.

There goes Stone Way Cleaners where they are steaming and pressing,  
steaming and pressing just for you. The world is stuck

on go, proceed, *avanti*. No one could imagine  
how enlightened you've become

in the cabin of your car, on the rim of tears  
with your velocity, your clarity at the wheel,

your rapid rolling toward some small truth, on and on like that.