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Window

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DOMINIC CHEUNG / HONG KONG

Window

That tree
Outside the window
Beyond me and beyond the window.

I close my eyes And leap through the wooden frame. Then trembling, my finger touches a leaf.

Beyond the window
There should be a mountain
There should be a lonely man on the mountain.

My eyes open, Framed in draping images. Til one, the tree, explodes like a cloud.

And I wonder,
Does the tree become a window
Or does the tree hang within the pane.

Perhaps,
Since I began to forget the season,
I had to turn and leave the tree.

Still the tree— And still the window, A glacier, unwilling to dissolve.

The scenery,
So extremely obstinate,
Will not transplant the tree back through my window.

Translated by the author with Margaret Scarborough

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