

Masthead Logo

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# Once Again the Moon

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## ONCE AGAIN THE MOON

Once again the moon  
edges through the trees, solitary  
and single-minded, staking  
out its shadows—this is what

it is meant to do, and the shadows  
go on trying to loosen themselves  
from fixed things—  
houses and trees that hold down

the darkness, that carry the moon  
high overhead like a banner:  
“We exist, given the presence  
of our familiars.”

I am like them, never far  
from what I know, that I name  
child, dwelling, husband, street,  
as if it were impossible

to advance through the original night,  
empty-handed, wordless, everything  
as yet untouched by my choosing:  
the house gathered around its lights,

the car locked into silence, the roads  
slipping through the darkness  
on their way out of the world.