Ghostbusting with Egon

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GHOSTBUSTING WITH E贡

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My son straps on his proton pack over his Batman pajamas and pumps imaginary charges into air ghosts in the corners of our every room. He stacks sofa pillows to build an Ecto-One car then sets his ghost trap on the piano bench, backs up and summons, “Peter, Winston, Ray, I’m getting a reading.” I watch him zap the make-believe apparitions with the soft-spray of shh-shh flushing sounds, his left arm waving to invisible ghostbusters like himself, and I replay scenes forgotten, myths and imaginary heroes. There was Zorro slashing the mark of “Z” on Elizabeth and Race streets, Superman leaping staircases in a single bound, and Davy Crockett defending Santa Maria Addolorato at the Alamo.

Now my son captures his last wraith in the bathroom mirror, a small version of himself etched in memory.