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## Awakening

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Blanco: Awakening

# *What Dust Is*

dander  
particles airborne like  
pollen, soot, skin cells  
fibers of fabric  
the fluff of feathers  
fine matters of earth brought in  
by wind, windows, and doors  
clouds billowing in from the outside  
specks from a storm or smoke from the ashes  
ancestors disintegrating under the tomb  
contaminants crumbling from the ceiling  
soil from our shoes as we walk  
insects inching on sleeping bodies  
sands from the Sahara creating dry plumes  
in the sky above the haze  
that sticks around

JULIE P. CENTER

