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In the Hospital

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In the Hospital

Adam Fotos

Princess Diana is
dead,

her Rolls Royce like a crumpled
paper cup dipped in black enamel. The beetle-thing
twinkles back the camera flashes and street
lights as we watch from above
through the lenses of angelic attendants
the camera crew from CNN, and we
read in the ICU from the TV above my grandfather's
bed about her last game of polo.

My grandfather lies asleep and I don't
think about the entourage of machines around him
braiding his body with sensors and tubes
buzzing intermittently, and I don't wonder
why they would let us watch his blood
filter in and out of a large grey box,
through clear, plastic tubes.

I listen to my step-father whispering of the royal family
and conspiracy.