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Night-driving

D.S. Maolalai
College of DuPage

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Becoming. Photography. Susan Trestrail

Night-driving

the sleeping night-light of the city,
crisped and tinkled on the sea
and folded over Dublin
like currency forgotten
in a pocket in the laundry.

they put out palm trees
here - I don't know why -
to make the beach
feel beachy, I guess,
or perhaps
to be cruel to foliage.

I liked driving out to you
that way, out toward Bayside,
over the coast road at night
and jamming my hand in the radio,
desperately trying to seek out
some song I was able to sing.

driving at night
is the only feeling; the whole road
your own, gold
from the streetlights
flowing over your hands
and then plunging them
dark again
in shadows
like buckets of caviar.

I liked it then
and still do,
even without the
you at the end anymore;
I don't have a car
but I try to find reasons to borrow one -
I move what needs moving
and come up with an excuse then to keep it
overnight.

the road
black as a river
gels forward.
I take it
and roll like a whale.

- D.S. Maolalai