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## Arrival

Tricia Marcella Cimera

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*for Annette B.*

I have arrived  
at the same age  
that you were.  
Wouldn't you be  
surprised to see  
my hair so long,  
though not as long  
and beautiful  
as yours was  
before you lost it.  
My blue eyes  
regard myself  
in the mirror –  
here I am alive.  
Wasn't I saddened  
to hear  
your brown eyes  
lost sight, went blind  
in that last week  
before you died  
of leukemia.  
Leukemia –  
a most unpoetic word,  
yet  
there it is.  
Arriving  
so bitterly,  
so unexpectedly,  
so randomly,  
on your doorstep  
instead of mine.