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The Three in One

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THE THREE IN ONE

Emily W. Recchia

I. MOTHER

My mother went away
in a gray SUV the day
I wore a red paperclip
on my glasses.
It was the metal that did it,
she said. It was frightening.

II. SISTER

My sister wore purple corduroys
every day in the fourth grade
while Desiree laughed over her
smashed fig newtons.

III. LOVER

All of my lovers are one.
They bristle under my weight,
my indignance

(M— was too angry,
S— was too tall)

and bend like a crooked cross
set outside the Trinity.