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The Returning

Lucille B. Reigle

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THE RETURNING

Lucille B. Reigle

My home is inhabited by strangers.

I walk in the after-light

Of living laughter.

These strangers in child-like need

Reach out to me and I

Numbly reach back but my

Loss cannot be assuaged.

Walls echo my unuttered cries

As I turn and silently walk away.