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## Hammered Dulcimer

Lisa Williams

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A WIND IN PLACE

*after Stevens*

The day is green and blown  
but her mother was strong  
as these trees bending in the wind.

The clouds are full of avowals  
but her father had the clarity  
of rain-scrubbed altitudes.

There is nothing whom can't change  
but the buried, nothing it can't sway  
but the ground.

Now their thoughts are thinnest air  
above the tangle of intelligence.  
Now their touch drifts

blurred and down.

The wall between the self and wind  
is just a limited perception, the eye's redress.

In the wide light,  
in the blaring continuity of it,  
over the dark and scrambled green,  
white blooms like sudden freedoms  
lift the harsh bark  
as possibility raises the eye up  
from its body, distinguishes its backdrop  
from ordinary scenes  
and from the leaves, those same spun leaves  
that weigh the branches down.  
But in between the wind and eye  
is the interrupting wall  
and the figure in place behind it  
who sees the lashed events  
and feels unsafe.