Owl Question
Shearin, Faith

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We hate the future in early fall.
You are worn and I am sorrow
if sorrow is a woman who cannot see.
Tell me our story. Were we perfect
at seventeen? Did we make love
in a hotel shower while someone
nearby knocked and pleaded into
the night? Did you visit New York
in mourning? Did we meet on a
train platform where men folded
newspapers and buildings leaned
together like lies? Was it like that?
Did we whisper while the elevator
went down? Did we leave our clothes
on a Cape Cod dune then remember
a low-flying plane? Did we marry
and move to a cottage by the sea?
So much of the story already told.
The dresses I wore; the expressions
you wore. Our pictures in a box
in the closet. Who could blame us
for refusing to write the rest? Somewhere
there will be trouble, somewhere
an unhappy ending. Inevitably, an ending.