Neck of the World

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DUST MERCHANT

With each hammering gust
of snow, the scales and thimbles
shrink, and the hanging
foot long folds of my skin shudder
like robes. I may appear
to have wings. I may look
directly past you, remembering
a sheer thigh of mountain
I climbed, in search of an atom
passed through a fish to a man
to a fish—all within a speck
of sand, and that’s but one;
the jars here stretch for acres,
the innumerable grains of matter
congregated in shelves, in rows.
This house decides its own name.
I may appear to wear glasses
of steam. I may appear smaller
than before, this weather
arriving on time, my tomb torn
open like the flesh of an orange.