Where She Always Was

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LINES ON A WINDOW

Start me
with a quick stroke:
slackened breast to lap
to knee then down
to knotted foot, and up
to nape. That fast
I could unravel back
into my drape, and then
my mended overalls
and anorak. I have
a bus to catch.
My body’s late.
Think of all the gazes
whisking past me. Do not
lift your hand up
from the paper.
Do not make me young.