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## Concrete Membrane

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Concrete Membrane

Stories force us to inhale each other's bloodiness;  
we struggle and suck the stickiness from fingers  
wrinkled with too much moisture from a reality

that is partial because it's yours, not mine,  
yet our blood is the same; salty and gash-deep,  
chlorinated before you offer it because  
that moment in time has passed and you can only

bring it back in tremulous, tidy stacks of words  
helplessly clean  
no matter its gobs of gory failure and futile gods.

I am just a ghost, there but not, gliding alongside  
something who needs me to be his inside, his gut lining,  
his fingerprint swirl ninth from the missing tip.