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new jersey

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he submerged and i held my breath.
one, two, three

*my grandfather is in a nursing home somewhere
eating jell-o and applesauce. playing bingo for nickels.
taking unnecessary pills to sleep.*

he emerged gracefully enough for a man over
seventy. his grandsons immediately climbed on his
back and arms—their tan skin brilliant against
his pale body and blue veins.

i closed my eyes and felt the force of the waves on my back.
my grandfather taught me how to float.
my grandfather wants to die.