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Under the Shade of Blossoms

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Under the Shade of Blossoms

Petals on a wet, black bough

Ezra Pound, *In a Station of the Metro*

I.

You slept. In the center
of a cherry blossom
garden, I laid out our lunch
– all compartmentalized.

II.

You slept. I left your plate on the only grounded
place. Your back against the bark –
and in those thin grooves, I felt you
slipping away into them, no,
your body molded to the form.

III.

You slept. We had planned to watch the fall
of cherry petals – a cascade
of pink scattering like ashes;
a single petal landing on your lip.

-Darrell Dela Cruz
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