JinJin Xu

Right Before Summer's Arrival

From inside the unseasonable heat
& softness of the body's first
afternoon opening

shoulders shimmer
swollen school yard laughter
the slow moving creatures

orbit one another
as if our future selves know this
to be the beginning

of our slow descent
into what we had always known
to lie just beyond

the page its hushed doors
beyond the cool
walls of a palm

pressed over our eyes
trying to delay
the elastic snap

of vision's
membrane & still the adults
are forgetting how

our eyes open into one
another how ears too those hidden
gaping orifices unfurl

the bone's slow swelling
until we peek
over the descent

& fall
into the water
melon mouth of

summer.