

Family Trees by Sarah Heffner

On my walks
I meet my birth father
who is any willow tree.

He owes me but it doesn't prevent him from making demands. He doesn't sway easily for a willow.

My mother I've met in real life.
But before that only in my poems,
and she was always a magnolia.

My brother is a field of trees, that can morph into birds, that are always flying east.

But when he is a tree it's as if he transformed, mid-flight as a bird.

And so, it is hard to tell even as a tree, that he is one. I am not a tree.

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