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Eclipsed

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Eclipsed

Lorna Van Gilst

Leaning out the door at dawn,
robed in rose chenille,
she points me to a cactus spine
heavy with bloom—
one grand flower,
creamy white,
one full-orbed flower,
awaited
like a child,
born in the night,
announced
admired
caressed
now softly bathed in morning gold—
a gold that withers
in an hour like Hamlet's cup.
The gleam of dawn
too urgent for the morn,
the new-birther flower
folds and fades—
a life fulfilled.