"Lines Concocted While Waiting to Catch a Certain Bent Blue Note in Jimi Hendrix’s Second Guitar Solo of ‘Voodoo Child (Slight Return)’ Recorded Live at London’s Albert Hall, February 24, 1969" (poem)

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Anything could happen this winter
in the frail rise and fall,
the lonely moans, of a landscape
no longer muscly with growth.

To start something new
will require a sort of slackening,
a giving way when the knife of wind
takes its first and second swipes
and the low-slung sun
paints a neon sky, rays
oozing around clouds in a hurry.

A black limb above the porch will sport
its sculpted snow boa, puffed fuselage
for the butterfly of spring.

All those hawks who once mounted high thermals
will send love from Guatemala.

The tagging and de-tagging of presents
will come and go; fields will go all-brown.

The attic will reclaim
the decorations I’m to cart there,
and optimism will seem a stretch—

like when pristine stone won’t detonate.