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He Could Speak a Little Spanish

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He Could Speak a Little Spanish

Kathryn Harlan-Gran

Maybe, in his dreams,
he goes back to Chihuahua,
where relatives traveled from so many generations
back that they don't bother teaching
the language anymore.
So he devours,
como un pequeñito en una dulcería—
everything is exciting
Jesus Christ,
lechuga, leche, queso, pollo,
a grocery list of knowledge filling a space
like a book missing from a shelf.
Tía Dolores probably took it
and didn't put it back where it came from,
¿verdad? Cabrona.

Green, red,

¿naranja?

Basura.

Even trash brings joy when it's something
new and undiscovered.

Hola, adios, ¿cómo estás?

Bien, pero mi padre insista en

llamar cada día durante mis clases y

no sé como lo dice

Para, papá, por favor.

Te amo.

Te adoro.

Te quiero.

We learn because it's there,

because we must.

Es necesario.

Claro.

Complementary Still Life

Julissa Andrade