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Snow

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SNOW

by Cindy Richards

Snow is the fragility of Christmas dreams
Glittering through darkness
To the sound of imagined sleighbells.

Snow is the bleak reality
Of a stalled car
And spinning wheels.

Snow is sweet memory
In failing eyes
White days of youth recalled.

Snow is a single flake
Caught for an instant
On a windowpane.

Snow is crystalline dust,
Weightless and tenuous,
Among the stars.

Snow is the last element seen
By the astronauts
Leaving our planet.

Snow is the first shining
Glimpse of our world
To inbound aliens.

Somewhere

Sifting thinly through a bitter sky
Above the cold sands
Of a Middle East desert,

Snow (cont'd)

Whirling fiercely over the naked sweep
Of a frozen plain
In Nebraska,

Settling in great flakes
On a calm night
Over a quiet city,

Slanting swiftly down
Across huddled tents
On an Arctic island,

Somewhere snow is falling.