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Winter Sunday

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winter sunday
for my brother

door creaks.
entering,
your glasses steam
concealing frozen eyes.

mother hides
gold
in antique coffee cups
percolating warmth
by laughter.

father runs fingers
over chipped crystal.
old blood
pouring
new words
lips trembling
silent

his blood murmurs our name
his eyes listen
his heart watches

and michael
you don't know.
you've only watched his eyes.
you must learn to listen.

--Susan M. Julien