

RADICAL TEACHER

A SOCIALIST, FEMINIST, AND ANTI-RACIST JOURNAL ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TEACHING

Poetry

Headed North

by Amber Moore



"OCEAN DEATH SPIRAL" BY ERIK RUIN VIA JUST SEEDS OPEN ACCESS GRAPHICS COLLECTION

Headed North

We left Tennessee.
It had to happen anyway
but
this would have confirmed it
otherwise.

It's sweet-smelling --
like the land is baking something tender,
with a light syrup and flaky salt.
It's almost so pleasant that you forget
The rot that
halts us, jams us, makes us sore
and panicky,
crawling off to be elsewhere.

I think about it alot; what would have happened
if we stayed?
A likely flight home, booked in a
frenzy. Or a brutal drive, masked
with mounting terror
but
gratitude too
for having this escape hatch to blast me
north. To cold, to quiet,
to quick and warm hands, unquestioning.

Where being less is so often more,
and so often
exactly what we need.

I haven't been back,
though I miss the loud fervor
and the man who sang,
"I'll always, always want it all" because
me too, yes.
Please.

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