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# Savannah

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## SAVANNAH

by Lauren Bledsoe

Wind unhinged  
and wrecked by light,  
you are my own lion:  
finely veined marble,  
bones swung into a chest  
of tree bark and plums,  
the slightest tinge  
of cinnamon, an amber mane  
of fire-spun hair, I am  
laced in your air, and  
I am leashed between  
your teeth, and I am  
whistling your name  
to each plant I pass,  
your name: an insect name,  
a storm name, a name  
scrawled on fenceposts  
and birdcages, a name  
whispered in sleep  
and screamed in dreams,  
I am naming your fingers  
at dusk and your footsteps  
at dawn, names for the  
sound of you: the silence  
just-before the hiss of rice

poured into pan, I name  
your taste and you name  
mine: lemon meringue,  
pomegranate, peppers split  
across the tongue,  
wet grass, tobacco, charcoal, sun.