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Snowbound

by Daniel R. Schwarz

"His soul swooned slowly as he heard the snow falling faintly through the universe and faintly falling, like the descent of their last end, upon all the living and the dead."

James Joyce, "The Dead"

As far as eye can see,
quiet as pure white,
peaceful as country landscape,
still as frozen pond, snow
bends trees and ragged bushes,
blankets earth, buries roads,
homogenizes houses,
nullifies difference.

Blizzard awakens my soul.
It's as if I were enclosed in womb
from which I emerge reborn,
or crypt that magically reopens.
Smoldering passion, creativity, curiosity
melt snow, prepare
ground for flowering, renewal.

