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All It Takes

Brett Hursey

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All It Takes

by Brett Hursey

is a rainy day to make me realize
my mind has boarded up
like an abandoned theater —

backstage and balconies
cluttered with faded flats
from long-forgotten seasons,

chips of memory flaking
off the canvass of my cortex,
raining neuro-synaptic snow

over an Id and Ego
who strut and fret
until the trapdoor in my psyche

finally snaps,
dropping everything into the basement
of my brain—

grocery lists and electric bills
tumbling out of chaos
into consciousness,

along with the idea of you
smoothing gingham out of your dress,
anxiously scanning sodden

paperback faces
in the little bookstore
beside the theater

where I should have been
an hour before the rain began.

