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Richard Brostoff

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EVE'S NOSTALGIA

by Richard Brostoff

The pain of my nostalgia was not
the pain of a wish to return to Eden,

but the pain of an illusion tested.
How to reenter what barely existed?

Imaginings of flowering paths
and rushing clear water,

the green shades of serenity—
dissolved in day's light.

The garden's shadowed gates
lay barred, guarded by a flaming

angel of the real. Is remembrance
just one more form of deception?

A mind in the act of betraying itself?
What original home is not partly

spectral; a brief poem,
a child's construction?

What is the deep past
but a parchment of dreams?

