

ON SILENCE

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Silence was a form of memory.

Silence was a sentence susceptible to inversion,

a memory of form.

Was a sentence that inhered in structure,
or a structure that surrounded its single

complete thought—which

is to say that no thing is complete,

not even the sentence that safeguarded silence.

A structure

built as a palindrome.

Silence said itself in either direction:

A little lost,

Silence, a little

curtailed, not

knowing its way.

Its memory remembered that it had more than one way.

Since hearing is

kin to Silence, hearing is

a form, a form gone astray.

In reverse of form itself,

Silence believed that

it undid memory. That hearing in every direction

was a form that took itself away.