



'Anniversary'

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Anniversary

Debakanya Haldar

All year round the wildflowers bloomed
over your grave;
you would have been appalled by its beauty,
you would have preferred
something less dramatic –
like a litany of resentments
refusing to rot.

Your house still stands tall and proud,
gathering dust in its hollowed expanse;
and the stray dog you hated for its
loud disobedience
is now its lone guard.

The photographs are still here
and they have preserved
your plastered smile;
they do not compare to your memories
that should have faded by now.

There was so much apathy
when you were here
and so much longing
now that you are gone;
you didn't do much to change that
but you did help out

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with a certain logistics –
the China dishes you saved
for special occasions
are now finally being used.