

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## André O. Hoilette: Two Poems

André O. Hoilette · Monday, July 6th, 2020

### i have a golden shovel with the blacks

*“I have a great relationship with the blacks.” – Donald J. Trump*

to that, over which you preside, i  
 would gesture to the sudden dying of kestrels; they have  
 seized, sent their great bodies, spinning deciduous seed pods, a  
 mistake of a blessing when the hollow bones break on the ground and great  
 stones in our rivers. what is the relationship  
 of wind or air to avian lifetimes, having served feathers with  
 whole selves, enslaved to another’s flight who never consider the  
 absence or tumult of which sending their bodies a crashing in bruises of blues and blacks.

\*

### pink flowers

*for henrietta & jay*

jay’s voice dances in echoes  
 on the dark wood of the brownstone hallways.  
 his practice for Steamroller  
 never stops but intensifies before holiday season.  
 there are pink flowers  
 growing next to the trash on the street.

henrietta falls ill, but tells no one  
 except jay. he is her only child,  
 but waited, because she didn’t want him  
 to worry. there is a slow  
 building of cells, familiar but foreign  
 in her pancreas. they go about their work rapidly.  
 there are pink flowers growing in her window box.

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jay is an intensely private person.  
henrietta is an intensely private person.  
because of sepsis, because of COVID  
doctors canceled the rest of her chemo this afternoon.  
they recommend hospice  
plan to discharge in a few hours.  
there are pink flowers in the bouquet jay has brought her.

henrietta dies 2 hours after coming home.  
jay is an orphan. he has no help.  
the funeral director suggest pink flowers for her waking.

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