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Scrap Paper

Tiffany Page

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Scrap Paper

Tiffany Page

For Jenn

I carry her list with me,
a single piece of notebook paper.

It's softer now,
that time has passed.

"Feed Animals
Go to Bank

Get gift card, Momaw
Mom's B-day

Cora
4 outfits
Diapers
wipes

Maddelyn
2 changes
Nightgown
3 panties
3 socks

Myself
Nightclothes
1 outfit
Socks..."

Written neatly at the bottom
are directions
to our Momaw's house in Louisiana

Her last trip to Louisiana
with her babies.

Our last trip,
together.

I found her list
after she died.

It took me a moment
to remember
that she had given it to me;

To remember that she
had given me her list
when it was only
scrap paper.

Scrawled on the other side
"Dallas Police Department 3/18"
The day my apartment had been broken into
Unimportant now.



Peaceful Doves Deborah Anderson

Now

Almost eleven years
have passed.

Maddelyn
will be sixteen in March.
Cora
turns twelve this year.

Momma and Momaw's birthdays
are coming again...

It's softer now
That time has passed,
but somewhere
within her list

my sister is still twenty-six.

The oldest of four girls and one boy,
James' wife
Mommy of two.

Maddelyn is still five.
Cora is still nine-months-old.

And her list
isn't so important
after all.
Just another piece
of scrap paper.



The Love Tree Daphne H. Babcock