

Lilacs Last

Looking back, there were signs—

you began to back into things
other trucks in parking lots
the dark lilac hedgerow
you planted for me
that sickening crack

you tried to stake it up but—

now I step through
the gap

It was so unlike you
we just thought
Oh you're in your 70s now...

This year a new shoot
grows straight up where
that crazy broken lilac
tries to right itself

but lilacs grow so slowly
it will be years
before that gap
closes, if ever—

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