

Our Tiny Somewhere

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a description of Earth from Maria Popova

The speck in the last
Voyager photograph
was Earth,

400 million miles away
at the edge of the solar system
it turned to look one last time
our way.

Everything we have loved and learned,
all we know and breathe
and hope is here, our
little speck.

the brief span of my breath
the dose of oxygen which lasts 3 seconds,
and then again, another dose,
my 72 heartbeats pulsing in this minute
in all this vast cosmos
with the rhythm the heart makes
and does not stop 'til death

the racing mind can expand
toward that infinity
wanting to see the edge
but only flying further—
like desire,
moving toward fullness
of being.

and then it is time
to do the dishes,
and then
to fall asleep
and dream