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embalmed

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they found bodies in the brown bog
smothered in peat and debris
a leathery woman, wrinkled lips curled upwards,
from 8,000 BC.

for sure she willed for life,
a death preserved by organic matter
its acid froze her strife,
and claimed her bones for feeding
leaving but a shell of thick skin, organs
showing signs of a brutal beating.

the bog breathed in her pain,
inhaling shame, injustice, sorrow
the bog will only gain,
from sacrifice again tomorrow

the bog does not discriminate,
it sees only blood, guts and cartilage
it will accept punishment or wait
for a suicide, a walk gone wrong.

the bog will not grieve when it is given
a young child dismembered
the bog keeps bodies to remind us,
that violence is always remembered.