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The coffee was perked, the clean cloth laid.
You never came-except in images:

The careless peacock spewing its god's-eyed tail through the zoo's debris: muddy leaves, wet paper cones.

Or apostles in Old Masters

who
pass the salt, pour wine
oblivious to hovering flame.

I unplug the coffee, fold the cloth
Only by indifference entertained.

Willi Haworth