

surprise

i need

some place i can be held,
affirmed, respected, understood,
felt, forgiven—not forgotten—
enveloped with love.

But

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to be for me.

such places are platitudes
presented as promises—vacant
—agendas to keep me present in grief
even if i bleed the torrential tears of my love

there is no relief
for the swollen

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in my eyes
blinding violence—
silence—surprise.

