The Linden Clock

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THE LINDEN CLOCK

by

Mary Cross

English Senior

infinite beats
strike
like a metronome on the edge
of a black piano

grandmother's Linden
ticks
the pendulum swings
reflecting like butter sauce
smooth along the fine bend
of dimming brass

a cold
blue steel key
hangs on a nail
beside shelves of wedgewood
and rose-petaled silver
mother's best
but the Linden
she said
must always be wound