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Leaving Bhit Shah

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LEAVING BHIT SHAH

Under the willows a strange light comes,
maybe religion—water deciding, leaves
that prophesy. Is it the wind, or is it
more than the wind? These devotees that murmur are
only larger leaves: holy sounds come
from farther than the wind.

Outside the mosque, God limps forward
to bring my shoes, while back there in the shrine
the blue keeps on, reflecting in mirrors.
Fans of the faithful wave. Above,
in the sky, in the cold, where the first
things come, no touching of a stone
or bowing will mean anything, but here
the sounds that happen, the heavy feet, the way
we trudge forward—these have some
clear, still meaning.