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Placeholder

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CHRISTOPHER KONDRICH

Placeholder

I've placed this
inside the envelope
I slipped beneath
the door to many
years from now
when I no longer
coincide with myself,
when I've forgotten
what I've chosen
not to remember
and I may or may
not have witnessed
what I've seen,
when what I had
been doing without
realizing it was aging
the world, using a trowel
to apply aging, its
thick putty filling
chinks in the surface,
smearing them with
beams of light (*see also:*
time) that chinks
can also refer to,
so that no room
could pass through
the lack of room left
for me to age
meant ensuring
that I not be present
even in presence,

that my constant evaluating
be a twine strung
from being to being
here (I would pull on
the *e* and feel *val*
at my palm before
the twine would
fray and burst),
I'll open to where
this has been holding
the page beneath it,
the real page
with the real poem
I was never able
to write because
I thought it could
be written, I'll recall
how I had to allow
things to happen
before they could,
how my need to control
diminished my capacity
to withstand even
the frailest iteration
of change, how I
often reached into
the myriad of π
expecting to pull
the same number,
the same lock of
the door I'll find
this under
keyed to waxing
or waning crescent.