

## CHRISTINA SHAH

### snoring

apnea's gap—  
a growling glottal stop.  
then tongue tumbles back  
into the palate's crevasse

exasperated, his spouse can't take this  
passed-out rasping in her ear,  
carotid zydeco of his breath's seized engine,  
this thoracic panic

it's late-night exile  
from satin to sweaty leather  
he leaves her curling warm bum  
for the solitary lolling sprawl