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As if I am a Piece of the Disappearing

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Genevieve Greinetz

AS IF I AM A PIECE OF THE DISAPPEARING

Yesterday, a big beard, blue helmeted man
swept in front of me and took the wave i paddled for,
he scanned the whole ocean and me but looked through me

as if i were a piece of the disappearing
kelp forest out in the surf. He said *what up*
to all the bros, but i am salt out there

dissolved and some of the men speak to me
like the red board man i talked to this morning.
He likes to surf Manresa and when i said i don't go there

because there's white sharks
he said *Yea, i just don't think about that*
but i think about predators all the time

and sometimes i pace in my house at 3 am
hypervigilant for creatures that might invade my body
but the red board man said *sharks*

blend in pretty well and that we just don't see em
which is why i don't go to Manresa or take walks outside my house
at night even though i want to but in the daytime

out in the water it seems like i blend in pretty well too
since the bros take my waves and don't worry
about what they're not seeing.