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Dark Window

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Dark Window

Through this same window that light once came
the darkness now streams. It moves
in whorls and vortices, creeping inward.
Far beyond it, what little, little light is left
is reduced to flickering pinpoints only half
believed. My reflection faces me,
demanding something I refuse to give it,
backed by the darkness, awash in the light
reflected by the glass.

Where my image is,
on that thin pane, the darkness and the light
meet. The pinpoints of the far away lamps
shine through that looking-glass likeness
like stars in a distant galaxy, like a
star body, immense and remote,
demanding nothing. I refuse to give it.

--Carolyn J. Elkins