OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR

inspired by Xu Bing’s Background Story

As in the blue fish fleeing capture
is blue Wal-Mart
As in the lost lake or dry plantation
is cornhusk or hemp
As in telephone poles or dead trees or crosses
    are toothpicks or t-pins
As in the rose finch foraging for yellow grub
is sugar paper and pen

As if pulling away becomes this gutless worm
As if a bend of light becomes this red bird chained
As if leaning in becomes the captor’s fist and squeezing
As if a fist becomes a fearful woman

As in her pigment in lieu of light
is accidental
As if she can only change a view by looking through
As in everything she reflects
is abandoned
As if she becoming shadow changes not one thing.

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