Monica Mody

Happiest in the 8-by-10

for Jayasree, Goa

She is a craggy feature of snippets some
pied some pilfered when snippets were fleshiest.
Some are hers, talented practice in saving herself, remainder from marriage.
Her practice deepens every year she returns home
aslant the grand cant of her brothers
/their offspring /their plans.

A trunk in the balcony provides
storage or nest or find her in a kitchen.

Thirty seven days dishing thirty seven a day
she fed me from her plank and pound. A scrap, a snippet flared
candent
out of her trunk in her hand in my hand
– it was not an offering really and the showing
was a question that housed
twelve years’ must –
a question seeking hers to
grow.