

Pressed Leaves at Morningstar

by Pamela Waterbury

Morningstar is a spirituality retreat for women in northern Michigan.

Parchment thin skin, veins visible,
you press together in decay.
Your skin
forms a new pattern,
more elemental -- a wasp-nest skin
as each distinct leaf -- oak, elm, beech --
bleeds into the other, becoming earth,
reminding me of my cheek pressing
into my mother's, pressing
into my grandmother's,
as my daughter's presses into mine,
becoming Woman.

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