

a shadow

by Kaecy McCormick

something both there and not there
an interruption of light, an echo [silent]
a place to hide, store secrets escape

i had a cat named shadow once
not silent that cat could talk [complain]
though he did manage to hide [away]
every night when mother called him in

he ran into the street when i was seven
we found his tail a block away [echo]

in a dream, a man with hands and a face
shrouded in darkness in ebonies in grays
told me you were but a shadow [now]
something both there and not there
an interruption of life, an echo [silent]

maybe i'm a shadow to you [specter]
as you gaze at me from the other side

when i woke, i could see the outline
of where the man stood, hands on my
shoulders [maybe], hot breath on my face
the wake in the air after someone leaves

something both there and not there