


## **Unsleeping, 3:25 a.m.**

Timothy Liu

——  
Whatever you do, don't go  
back to sleep. I know you spend  
your waking hours making sure

everything's in its proper place  
even if you throw a tantrum  
when you bump into a chair—

disorder brought into your home  
where the furniture remains  
the same but the room itself

is altered. Don't go back to sleep:  
I've waited all my life to cross  
your threshold and wake you

from your slumber—your body  
sealed under glass waiting for  
an axe un-hewn by human hands—

and in that instant you finally  
awake, I too feel the cleaving  
go right through me, the future

stripped of its past in a place  
I've never been but through your  
eyes—so don't go back to sleep.