



American Radiance

Luisa Muradyan

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Luisa Muradyan comes to America from Ukraine as a child. She grows up to study poetry at the doctorate level; meanwhile, her poems are published in *Paris-American*, *Blackbird*, *Los Angeles Review*, and *Poetry International*, among other journals. Readers search her work for clues as to *what it means, how it feels*, to be an American and she refuses to play along. Readers should write their own poetry to figure this American thing out.

Boris

*There is an old can of tuna in my refrigerator
and I don't have the heart to throw it away
so I give it a name. I call it Boris. And sometimes
I think about Boris when I eat a ham sandwich
or when I frost a cake in lily white or when I wash
Dishes. When I have guests over I worry that they
will smell Boris, and how can I explain
why I won't throw him away. But he's in there
next to the eggs, and I imagine the refrigerator
alive in the twilight, and Boris pulling back his mouth
and singing to the fresh tuna, and how the young
don't believe in the old.*

MATT SUTHERLAND (November/December 2018)

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