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# Out What Was the Kitchen Window

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Lucien Darjeun Meadows

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### **Out What Was the Kitchen Window**

Spearmint lifting itself into a bush  
that falls on the skirt of a Virginia Pine  
Grandfather planted in the first summer  
of his marriage, the July my mother

was born. Only three are left, the remnants  
of diagonal rows that filled the field  
between home and forest. Nothing like his  
telephone line of Sweetgum down the drive,

planted a few years later, my aunt's year,  
days of dollar-bags of loam, the feeling  
that anything he could plant would grow—

all those trees are still there, even after  
my grandparents' house became my parents'  
house, then my aunt's house, trembled, and burned down.