

Nothing Ever Stays Looking

by Darryl Price

The same, some things you
Can't explain, most trees
Have felt it go bone dry at the roots before.
I've learned to let love
Go bye bye. You think they don't
Want to answer your pathetic knocks,
But they're constantly
Calling back to you through rocks and soil. Words are the
Last thing I'd use to
Say goodbye. Goodbye. Goodbye.

No one ever stays
The same. Problems come
And go. People scare me. Certain trees you can see
Have recorded a whole
History of suns
And rain, others have
Been scorched by a different
Kind of weather and stand up for emergencies,
Weeping all the day long.
Nothing ever stays

At the beginning.
I'm not forgetting
The lightning rod . Nothing ever stays on fire forever. We
Giggle. We occupy.
We scribble down.

There are branches old
Enough now that they look
Right through you in their presences. Why this should still
Comfort me so deeply I simply
Don't know. I cannot say. God speed you, my friend, always,
towards her certain smile again.

