UP-NORTH RODEWAY INN

Farthest stop

up Great Lakes Blue Line

Ice scarring the signal at the shuttered Petoskey station

An electric wire on a fir

Forty-four inches of snow cover Iron Mountain
Speedway down county

Freight cars for miles—
Tonowanda Coke, Howe & Howe—

frozen wait.

A stranger says *you can hear the cold here*

Hours I stand in the window with winter

sun slanting through the blind
& crewel bird embroidered
dirty curtain the rays

cut my body
into dark & yellow stripes

Days I listen, try
to hear the mountain—

Bonnie Jill Emanuel
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