

Karen Neuberg

Streaming

Pale belly above water, his body floats
calm stream as he takes a break from fishing.
This is my father, and I smile—

he isn't everything I could have wanted,
but he is mine. *You're such a ghost*, I tease
him now. Resignation stifles my gasping

want to see him. I browse old memories
like assorted clothes strewn across my bed.
Father slips onto the floor, large as a beached

porpoise, then turns into a flounder
flapping in a bucket, then into the fish
my grandson caught today. As I look into

the honeyed light, everything is streaming.
For a moment, I feel I'm dreaming my father
dreams with me.

Karen Neuberg lives in Brooklyn, NY. Her most recent chapbook is *the elephants are asking* (Glass Lyre Press) and she is associate editor of the online poetry journal *First Literary Review-East*.