

MAGNOLIA TREE

Annika Le

i. i've been watching
the magnolia buds

shaped like
rubber torpedo pool toys

fuchsia kernels
ready to burst

ii. yesterday
a hailstorm loosened them

petals now
half-husked

iii. they have
unclenched
their pink fists

palms open
to skies

iv. petals pepper
the sidewalk

only a few remain
on branches
like loose teeth

v. several buds
never bloomed
at all