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How to know I am a human.
for the families in Ukraine

Chad Norman

Under a sky deciding to be blue
a yellow piece of plastic
becomes trapped
in a neighbour's fence.

When the world provides
it can be a soil or a soul
each brought in the silence
between the shells the sea
does not know, a shoreline
of crimes and tidal sadness.

Here in the tiny body I live in
only protest to a war is allowed
to be a voice, who I can be now,
one face in a mirror unbroken
unable to smile or say hello,
or be known by the family
seeking some form of border
holding a child, what was once a life
two could share, husband and wife.