



HER HUSBAND WAS NOT LYNCHED

Angela Redmond-Theodore

*In memory of Cordella Stevenson,
who was in Columbia, Mississippi, in 1917.*

false accusations set a house on fire
and name a missing son as spark

a hanging mother filters the acrid air
between her broken teeth
blows it out in noose rings
from between her broken legs

a whittling husband, home, catches
what the piney breeze has to say
and with his fingernail carves
the missing smoke from memory