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POETRY | SPRING 2019

## MRI Safe

By Katya Lavine

You cannot take your almonds  
Into the MRI,  
But I will hold them with your diamond ring and  
Your sterling silver studs.  
I will not eat a single one.

But you do not believe me –  
You trust that in a small unlocked box,  
Your jewelry will be untouched,  
Yet you are on high alert  
For your salted nuts.

Your argument is valid,  
There is no metal in the almonds –  
Just the same fat and salt  
That sits under your skin.

So you take a handful to stuff  
In your cheeks  
As your body moves into the tube, you chew,  
And at once you have fallen asleep.

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