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Headlights & Snowflakes

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Jeffrey MacLachlan

Headlights & Snowflakes

Soviet safety poster, 1984

Viewing things too accurately
can be hazardous. My high

beams caparison a snowsquall in canary
lycra and prussian crystal. Halogens,

they say, we're prepared
for Olympic auditions,

and pirouette atop delicate toe
picks. Two swerving

kamaz drivers shield their pupils
from white elegance. Instead of tedious

accumulation, triple salchows
and skid spirals. We'll be the pride

of the satellites. The comrade
baroness. We pearl spin

like sickle-hammer
sparklers as kremlin's

snow globe smothers us
into extinguished positions.