

softer skin

those with thin skin, like
an overripe peach, easily bruised
flower petals, soft
young green saplings
summer strawberries
wispy spider webs, shimmering

our feelings are supple, like
a young summer tree not yet overcome
by rough, coarse, unyielding, stubborn bark
feelings plush like moss
plump with (a cloud's) love
thriving in the hardy tree's shade
nurtured soft to hug the earth
like cozy, fluffy, warm blanket

our skin is transparent as glass
ice on a frozen pond
sharp edges glistening
and beneath dark waters
a creature lucid dreams,
in slumber, sensing warmth
eyes unfurling like
blooming peonies

we are like shells of a teal blue egg
discovered by a child exploring the forest
delicate, cracked, enduring
look! the jagged edges are mountain ridges
evidence a blue jay soars
above beyond the summit

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