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Dead Pages, Dead Bodies

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the bookstore here is nearly four stories in height,
and about as wide as two apartment buildings placed
side by side.

there are thousands upon thousands of books,
all piled on top of each other,
some thrown into corners,
and almost entirely forgotten.

occasionally, people walk by them
and i can feel it as the books are sort of
begging for attention,
begging for someone to bring them home,
and love them as their first owners did.

mostly, i thought about how a person
could die in this bookstore
and nobody would find them for days or
possibly weeks at a time
and they'd be left to rot
like all of the unwanted books in New York City.