



A canopy is developing its crux of wood.

We have been raised within this shade

pale and effaced, faded into

the cartilage and sweat beneath,

once warm, erosive

eggs. Bloodsuckers

across the translucent heights,

leaving our skin with red rings,

and the night husk, hanging

from the bough-tips; spit bowers

spotted with mold.

Though do you suppose that if we were

to draw light from the lumen,

succoring rot in successive waves,

we would, at once become adult?

29

The myopic will pink the bonnet, milking out

the forms, filling out.

23

This was put down wet, as we came up

41

beside the road: don't answer

to delight the trees. Don't answer

with your own passage through

its whetted route.

Billbugs

thread by age-

by-age, through the darkling

skin: webs catch our mouths,

and floss, lo protestant. Dark furnishings

don't answer the door. The phone:

sit still, the woodland wall,

move closer around us, until

we are no longer outside.

Calm, late, the bugs stretch their loom

in our throats, and hang.

Don't answer the door, unless there is a basket there:

leaf green shoal.

Chance lists itself advantageous.

Successive waves succor themselves

around an open wound, off entrance.

So plain the safety

we have been raised with,

shade through the sun.

37

I'll see you soon: but where

to meet? The genera

is quick and sure,

but this has taken a longer while

///

30

At the boundary of the mown field,

piled stones along the forge,

the hands of its master, gone longing for.

In a stand of famine: something to take

apart, nearly ominous.

41

Whetted route from the withering crowns

to roll darkling at us.

The woodland wall, move closer.

The birds' bad breath,

carcass.

37

Collect.

Spend, over and take it

to the heart. The ill-scented liver.

The inside of the organ.

27

We wanted them

to turn into something else – we wanted

to leave it all behind

but you put it all back in,

the fur, stretched with our collected skin.

32

The hide is stretched,

hiding. Anon. The dead.

Brown filling out

the emptying forms: penny, shining

suture, palp, discs.

To the parceling out. Poplars,

being eaten at their bases:

the decurrent metal

marks, burrow wrinkles

to the barks.

Fruit sits there,

ill-composed, on the limbs.

The hides are stretched between them.

Mast year, and watch

a small winter, immediately ravenous.

The branch melody verses

39

the swatch side of the ridge: the paths

collect and promptly

spend themselves,

over asking "would you like

to go and sit

beneath the vandalized beams?"

The brites turning toward

the age of ice,

of rocks traversing

the inside of progress. Let us raise our hands

against the document and quote,

28

"mountains rope the wood of entrance"

salt lick and / or lunate

to the entrance

(ibid.) unthread it

over burrowing young

and threatens to root. Unhang them: give them

something else to fear: give them

a hand in strangling themselves.

Grace their heads and sing:

"be born, kid, be dead."

Each dismembered life with an ambitious plan.

27

The saturated voice,

decomposing its cords.

Tightly bound its absent gasp.

12

As the young are, shades

along the grass: til no

o more

seed, but selvage.

Like to like

have been median.

Paddock, black snake. Cut it out.

Hemlocks. Ten tall and dark,

cut them out (sibling, treeline,

A parcel disallowed a function. The produce of imposition.

Mesh fencing.

Shrubby habit. A realist sense

11

for the shallowest cuts:

pare layers away to use (the

jerk osier) immediately.

Sap forms in burns

along the whole-length in grain.

7

Fell from length, with no purpose

but the thing laid out. There was

a fire here,

the world held

blackening to our breeze

through this geometry: the cul-de-sac,

taken on the domesticity of dogs,

exhorting cornsmut; they've browsed the life away

from these woods, passing through.

They shimmy to attention,

the new tilting a little from the old.

Which were those miles

and are, were it all

encased in a vivarium.

And reduced, to be rebuilt.

Coarsened by need, cut from the avoidance.

Their circling marks; ticks

and shit: maundering, dilating.

5

The starveling, marguerite. As it forms,

it comes to encompass

you. Hairless and in perfect speech.

Wet from where the prints had pressed themselves.

And resting its head in the sprout.

All of it has been removed, knot-root, long and angry.

4

Meter the cuts, pare the growth away

in the shortest way to an end.

The exact distance of decline.

Vapor and brake. The slope side.

Over-dimmed, the dwindling

that forms a greater stare.

6

A catalog is that there is none.

Think of close. Think of seems.

Turn the thing its various ways.

Stiffen the limbs thereof. Of all brushes,

clap. The nearing ones, the crack

of sickener.

26

Gains one, and is three.

Cuneatum, see us: three-fingered:

one middle

head,
restusus
at the tips.

We must learn
to soak ourselves.

There are not enough
to be plenty of,
to be brazen about.

We barrel full of shit; call it scat

if you want to take it

apart.

4

19

We have left what is weighing down.

To what extent the south fixed,

nor foot, horizonless.

x count high,

exceptionally high.

The paths insured against knowing

where to go, how to get

there, the right

side circular recording

apparatus, appear at us

breaks, beats after, seal

the breaks, codify, cool it down,

slid with us, occasional, an indiscrete order

ritually bi-

coastal, dusted from fronds,

filigree.

The guide retains the fearful tether

severing things

never to outlive their children.

Fluviatile,

velvety shallow, sub-acid.

The shallowest and hollow of sluggish waters,

they are turned from knowing

the sight of their own.

Club moss, the ferns and their allies

the species seek the influence of

those that child

the downy, pubescent.

Composite or daisy

these long, despoiling lines

cut for our own

living rooms,

for us: eclog or non. Sub

did vie for sleep,

par sell.

Threads rutting, until the charred,

light itself, full of noise,

sheeply suburb. This curvature

created its own

populace, in love with

the stately. Vintage no vintner

minted. Even the leverwood,

the report, cold cliffs

dimmed to almond. Husked, instilled ladies.

Leavening of fraternity, your stomach

and your arms in the grass,

the brush saint buried beneath.

Splayed from the thorns, yellowbush, blue

bird box, maple: trees

bent at the crotch,

interrupted.

New granaries for the spring -

tail,

sucking from the royal,

sanctuary bend. You said I said

we must remain in the cheek, in the way

this town has remained in exodus,

multiply receiving its rich.

The lightness left to score

the seeds loose

and curl back the leaves, to manage our mound

in the dirt. A head, we left them

neglected

in the cage at one end, while we

made listing

slow-sprints

through the blazed and bedded way. They gnawed at the fence and wore their teeth down. Between these two: blame the brother for what doesn't pass. 22 The bladed begins later. Dines in the distance on fuels, hair and wood.

On all manner.

On all manner.
On its host.

This inordinately thin thing of a forest.

18 / 34

Define the hilline

by the livestock

that have passed, all now engaged

in the long, loping cornice. Glacial droppings,

moment-

o of retreat,

the crease, each would be

reversed - a break in the boundary.

The very land shrivels at the hands

of the adnate. Lattice, if

our bodies sense it, our bodies want it.

Then we will have to give it to them -

or lining the clipped, cleave the flat run,

to become a real, continuous object,

tiding our lodgings for longings.

Where the measurements are least known.

Unthread it: and threatens to root.

40

The collected works of common cinammon,

cliffbrake, spinulose, five-fingered.

The collected works of compound, copulatory.

Suckers retain a promontory

scent, its coat of relations. The rain camp,

the coronal kin: archway of lily,

improper rasping motion.

"mountains of wood are the rope

that secures entrance." To emergence.

To relieve the color from burden.

Between us, a potter's field. Digging out the round,

misshapen oven. We call

across this distance, over black lines,

burial, spots. Meet at the rocks,

the shadows'-fed. Momentum, cloaks

at the hilt of each broad spade.

Put the mountain in, by way

of people, fruiting.

We dig by moving in. O let us rood, O let us

fall. Into the tumbrel cart, the carriage road

to join the woods

as they moulder, nutritive,

and us,

we celebrate. The spade

splits us at the veil, the button.

35

Stage / spread and skull cap / coprinus

fairy rings

perplexus sinapis

tawny mammae / short

barks overlap / tassel

ears / pausing brown paling

rose / oh, do coil, do beam

forest / fistulina the strangle-birch,

the patch and white, toward lighter / earlier

along the lakeside,

in the morning, you pallyboy.

Respite at the pond,

while squandering the wiping plants

and their (knuckle) buds,

at least, as you saw it, right, cresting

along the boundary.

Those elevations mangle themselves

on the lawn from strings and leaves.

23

The couples right convention in a nickname.

42

Arms embracing a body. One leg

pointed at the sky, the other,

bent along the ground,

stoppered

by a patch of leaves.

Hands holding up a body. Fingers inside,

frozen over. We toss a rib

between us -

it curls on the ice and goes.

The arms, the body, the legs

held up and parted

were those of those

girls we knew, all of them

fully dressed only hours

before on the field. The legs held up

and parted.

The taper velvet

in the understory, rosettes.

Impatient of unswaying elder selves.

Madder, silvered in the water. Dig out

the candlewick. Dig out the oracle bones

from the mattering waste.

Lose downward and stop

to lean to start atop the cliffs

cut back year by year

to make a red-of-way for the migratory

streaks and minute moss.

The soil hardens a foot to hold them. Something

chews a bit

in us and lays eggs.

One to the lakes, the other two

northeastern, gait and rail.

She joins the crowds underground.

21 / 15

The sister tunnels beneath the path

ways in snow, grown brittle

hide, from the frost, sticks her fingers

in bidding through the flower

bare, the voices that drip,

hang. She has grown black, morphallax,

not a marker of mass,

but of its animal lacks.

Away from what she was supposed

to tend. Which is

what died. She joins the crowds underground,

short of limbs. Self-heal, heal-all.

Sent back in sheets of plastic, circle

early 1990's.

24

Forgetting: what

we thought antecedent: our bindings,

and our gazes, dense.

Raised to foil by raising.

Pity the pale winter, its overspeeding

altarfeet, graying against the bitters

of the browsing fingers

dipped

into the slothful

pond. And reluctant,

for what contract.

For whom the first, and contract the last.

16

It just does not exist, you say. A long

and awful descent, to be sure.

We may or may not be taken by the burly roots

that feed such loose, corrosive dangling.

We'll warm ourselves on the embers, biting

the, how you say, big one.

## THE PINES, VOLUME TWO

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