


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?

The myopic will pink
the bonnet, milking out
the forms, filling out.

This was put down wet, as we came up
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.

I'll see you soon: but where
to meet? The genera
is quick and sure,
but this has taken
a longer while
//

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.

Whetted route from the withering crowns
to roll darkling at us.

The woodland wall, move closer.

The birds'
bad breath,
carcass.

Collect.

Spend,
over and take it
to the heart.
The ill-scented liver.
The inside of the organ.

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.

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
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,
"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.

The saturated voice,
decomposing its cords.

Tightly bound its absent gasp.

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,

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fort, slope, sanctuary.)
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A parcel disallowed a function. The produce of imposition.

Mesh fencing.
Shrubby habit.
A realist sense
for the shallowest cuts:
pare layers away
to use (the
jerk osier)
immediately.
Sap
forms in burns
along the whole-length
in grain.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 its host.

This inordinately thin thing of a forest.

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.

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.

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.

The couples right convention in a nickname.

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.

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.

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.

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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