

Fable of the Bellied House

Sugar will stand

so high only and then
come down and tumbling.

Small watered light, then

small waiting light.

We will then hope
someone or at least
water will crawl
and fill our rooms.

*

Brass slides into the hall, clamped over every nod and cleft.

Here is your knot/did you lose it/in the nude hem/of your hair so/close to the knee?

Chin to recitation. So loud and tumbling,

let's escape and after, shatter, meeting shard to flake.

(save us to stand perhaps on point if only point)

*

Believe this, then eat up.

We're all stitching paper to the floor

so we will slip later.

You'll take spills to the ends of us.

Never silhouettes

before we would think
the profile of a blotted maze.

*

Never careful

we would.

*

Long and doubling knuckles, yours. True, you built the wall from cane.

But now at least come out of your rooms. All of them. Or
clean your family fierce basically with what you swallow.

*

This house is built
from sweet and metal.

When we say

this is not your
home, you trace
the white stones

over:

Fable of Digestion

Because he needs
 sound in the backyard

what used to be an alley
before his daughter
 broke this noise down.

And then his daughter broke
your noisy mouth in two.

*

You like the unfamiliar dresses
on her. All not white, remember?

*

Fill your lap with her.

 You should want your palm
 in her teeth.

And then you come home to her.

Fable for Halving

Half of your house is gone and you live
there.

And the tree, half, is gone. Ignore
the frayed brim and sheets hung
still from the birch sticks standing.

Start back at the cedar bed bending over
the mulch. Half

of your body is shipwrecked and the other
planted.

Lullaby in the Front Yard

You'll be careful
to silence

when things fall

out of your ceiling

humming.

You aren't so sure
or slow who wants
pieces

and where you should put them

in the meantime.

Lullaby of Gills

Happening
you find small arms

but what kind
leaves
pasted to your
water

broken oh
no more children

now with lung
black
milk and cold
compress

collapse,
you see a body
water

on your lap
still
shallowed sea

swallowed and
skinned.

You could find a fossil
here, too, between the water.