

Protection

I live on a mountain.
There is so much to love.
But I keep failing her kindnesses by
Shouting (trying to remind her
Peaks & valleys are twins).
Causing avalanches is no way to
Demonstrate love.
I live on a mountain but
I am afraid of heights.

~

Confrontations

Go to hell, and
Confront your demons.
Look at each one.

Memorize them.
It won't be hard,
Once you've learned

They all have
Your own face,
And the same

Need, to set you free.
A simple request:
Acknowledgment.

~

Be Cured

Remove the stains with abalone and sage
Before they become permanent

Quick! Dry the herbs and store the meat
Before the rot

Go on pilgrimage
Before limbs and joints won't take you

Cast off your burdens
Before you inadvertently pass them on

Before the cures of cedar and sage, dull –
Yielding to rage.

~

Evading Negative Space

Look at the
Cut flowers, not the too heavy vase,
On the too small table.
It's cracked, anyway –

The vase, not the table –

Pieces put back with superglue that's
Hidden away in a drawer
Out of view altogether,
Though it is there, somewhere.

Look at the
Beginning
Of the thing –
The part still harboring

Life.

~

Sanctuary Spaces

I need to stand in the sanctuary.
Learn from sinners & saints.
I need the breath of angels on my cheek
And the hate of sinners on my neck.
When will angels and nations learn
They aren't enemies?
I will stand in this space waiting
Until we collectively learn to love.

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