

**Otherness**

He leaves her

To tend to her own needs  
Lick her own wounds  
Live through her pains

They are different species

With colliding instincts  
Disparate primary needs  
Distinct habitat requisites

He is a Tiger

Seeking Solitude

Unsatisfied

Wanting companion

She is a Lioness

**“Use it or Lose it”**

Senses fade in a vacuum of connection  
Burning out in loneliness  
Like stars spreading remnants of their dust  
Dying.

Will they permeate my skin  
And revive before his indifference  
Diffuses their heat?

**Climate Change**

I am rehashing moments of his Being  
Dilating my veins and blood rushing in—the good kind  
When I feel glitter of elation tickling on the inside  
Impelling the body to bounce up and enjoy air beneath my feet  
Inflating my heart beyond its limit to take in his virtues  
The good kind—I can no longer experience

Overtaken by indignation of his Unbeing  
Like chakram cutting into my skin and  
Flooding me with blood of desolation

I am becoming an ocean swaying the dead

### **Grieving Means Living**

I grieved throughout  
far stretched days and boundless nights  
libel dinned into my bones and silence echoing negligence  
abyss of unmarked walls and finite tally of emotion  
I grieved all along

I grieved with heart ache  
his back spread in front of me like horizon  
eyes hidden behind the smog of wariness  
unbeing sealed with presence  
I grieved in love

I grieved at the core  
stared into depth of aloneness  
scent of him vaporized like his figure in my mind  
flapping motion of wings carried new air  
I grieved him alive

**Painsteaking**

I like my pain raw, like a steak. Peppered.  
Its texture rubbing against my insides, grinding  
The flesh, until its bloodiness meets my own.  
Delicacy some call it—tartare. *Bon Appétit.*

I'm a slow eater. Connoisseur. Placing bits  
On my palate until the flavors slowly divulge,  
Dissolve. Dripping gore, in union, conceives  
Bloody crisps to complement the meal.

Crisps are the last ones to go.

But when they finally do,

They leave me anew.