

l'amour du cinéma

You can only watch love stories
in black and white
in a foreign tongue

so when they say
I love you

you cannot recognize it.

Je t'aime
Te amo
Ti amo

Anything but
I love you.

You are a loud kind of lonely.

You are a loud kind of lonely.

You yell its name across the house,
tell it to go to bed at night,
feed it pancakes in the morning,
send it off to school,
throw it a birthday party,
keep a photo of it in your wallet
to show anyone that will look.

*Look, you say. Look at my lonely.
Have you seen my lonely? How big it's gotten?
Do you remember when it was just a child? When it couldn't speak? Couldn't walk?*

Your lonely now knows how to run,
how to recite the alphabet,
how to hold its breath underwater
longer than you ever could.

At night you brush your lonely's hair,
tuck it into bed,
sing it a lullaby until it falls asleep,
and then sit in the glow of its nightlight

wondering what to do with yourself
until it wakes up.

i am a quiet lonely

I am a quiet
lonely.

I never speak its name.

I am afraid to name something
I do not want to keep.

richter scale

Tell me
on a scale of 1 to disaster
how beautiful we are.

I promise I'll reinforce every shelf in our house
so that nothing breaks when we lie to each other
and say:

everything is fine
everything will work out
everything we hate will fall
between the cracks of the San Andreas.

We could be a perfect ten
if we shook everything in sight
out of sight
and screwed everything near the wall
into the wall

so that when the floors cave in
at least our vases will be intact
and our flowers can die

in a beautiful still life.

the future

I visited the future last night.

You had computers in your eyes
and metal plates
drilled into your heart.

When I woke up
I realized I wanted you
back
as a robot
or as a man,
it doesn't matter which one.

I just want you there
waiting for me

in the future.