

FOB

Speak English, he said
May I please be excused
A stutter, come apart at my lips
A smile, no, a smirk, a charitable nod

Go back, he said
To where, I asked
Anywhere, just not here
So I hide, no, camouflage

But wait, it wreaks
No, I mean it reeks
The stench that hates me
Perhaps I can walk it off casually

Mother's Cancer

A mass or a fibroid or a tumor
Whatever
Eight centimeters, left ovary, tucked away
beside the organ that you don't need
after four pregnancies
or mama, was there more

Is that fear or sadness
nonchalant, you should be
so it becomes no big deal
but I am mad because of your melasma
put on some sunscreen, will you

Bedtime

Tell me, darling, what happened during your recess today
If that ball swung around the pole again
If the butterfly came back for the second visit
Did it smell green when you fluttered
Or brown mixed with your sweat
Did you wash your hands with soap
And how much did it lather up
Oh fine, I will stop so you can tell me your story
Oh the soap was pink color
Is that all you want to tell me

Disapprove

If we hold hands, would it mean
that we are serious
because then I want to be careful
I could very well proclaim it
the unity, oh, the holy unity
but not just yet

By whose authority would it ever become acceptable,
cherished by the whispers but will my life be spectated
The unbearable silence, open you seem, receptive you aren't.

Timely, oh, it's so timely,
but it's got nothing to do with it;
bridled in the 90s if I'm generous

Check for mold if you can,
vinegar works well, I heard.

Obsessive Birdwatcher

Four babies, she said there were, then one died,
or did it die, she found it on the ground and buried it,
I hope it was dead.

Two left, she said, watching day and night,
getting slapped by the mommy bird;
how does that add up or did you bury two?

Zoomed in, see, how they became so big,
the mommy comes at seven o'clock, feeds at eight,
I saw out the window, she said.

She kind deserved that slap,
with stalking eyes she stood there on the ladder,
by the empty nest, now they abandoned.