

half a woman

man of the house take the lead
take the walls and pinch them to dust
I mourned in my sleep too much take these dying wishes crumpled up
with them make paper stars with them set me on fire

sister, sister ground me
take my hand drown me in the shallow

if the room wants to spin let it spin
if the mushrooms want to grow tell them we'll grow together
turn the lights off whisper the name of your heroes
take the bet.
take the right wing of the moth
make it your wishbone
amen

and the candle goes out.
the man who lost a sea
standing before you in the velvet horror of the room
humming nonstop like a bee, like the tide
humming the story of the night you paced hallways
not sure what to do
with the placenta in your hands.

the aftermath of a sister's requiem, quiet
in winter sun
amen
to the railway fast asleep, the cold pines

amen to our prayers come undone.