HONEY JAR

I WAKE UP UNDERWATER AGAIN, HANDS ABOVE MY HEAD. I'M REACHING, BUT I KEEP DESCENDING. It's FLOATING THROUGH MY FINGERTIPS, YOUR NAME, ASCENDING WITH THE PRESSURE FROM MY FINAL BREATH.

THERE'S NOT A WORD YOU HAVEN'T HEARD BEFORE, AND THERE'S NOT A TRUTH YOU HAVEN'T SAID. THESE LINES WE HOOK AND THROW, I FOLLOW THROUGH THE AIR, INTO THE WATER BUT FROM THERE, I DO NOT SEE WHERE THEY WILL GO

WE'RE RUNNING WITH THE HIVE, ONE LAGGING FOOT BEHIND, AND TOO LATE, WHAT'S LEFT TO TAKE? WE CONQUER AND DIVIDE, AND WHEN THE HONEY JAR IS DRY, WHAT'S LEFT TO TASTE?

THERE'S NOT A WORD YOU HAVEN'T HEARD BEFORE, AND THERE'S NOT A TRUTH YOU HAVEN'T SAID On the ocean bed I lie, and I can see and look around. THESE LINES WERE TANGLED, BUT DOWN HERE THEY'RE ALL SPREAD OUT.

I'LL LET YOU SLEEP, AND I WON'T WAKE YOU. DON'T HAVE A THING PLANNED FOR TOMORROW, THERE'S NOTHING WE HAVE TO DO LET'S NOT SPEAK, WE NEVER HAVE TO.

FOCUS, BUT NOT WITH YOUR EYES, OR ALL YOU'LL SEE IS LINES. WE NEED SOME DISTANCE FOR THE LIGHT TO ILLUMINATE. COLLECT 'EM ALL, UNTIL YOU WIN, BUILD IT UP AROUND AND IN. SOON YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WELL.

THERE'S NOT A WORD YOU HAVEN'T HEARD BEFORE, AND THERE'S NOT A TRUTH YOU HAVEN'T SAID. THAT DOT TRACED WITH YOUR HAND, BUT IN TIME THAT STAR WILL GROW. I SWEAR TO GOD I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT MARK BEFORE.

LET'S NOT SPEAK; WE NEVER HAVE TO. THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO SAY IT, DOES IT MATTER HOW YOU CHOOSE? I'LL LET YOU SLEEP, AND I WON'T WAKE YOU.

PAINTING MY ROOM

I WALKED BY AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE SUNSHINE PAINTED OVER MY ROOM. THAT WAS BEAUTY I TYPICALLY SLEEP THROUGH. BEAUTY'S THE WINDOW I LOOK THROUGH TO SEE YOU. I'VE ONLY GOT A WINDOW OF TIME TO TAKE IT AND MAKE IT ALL MINE. TO MAKE YOU ALL MINE.

I DROVE PAST A SWEET LAUGH. IT WAS A WOMAN ALL ALONE IN AN OLD LIMOUSINE,

PILED HIGH WITH WHAT SEEMED TO BE EVERYTHING THAT SHE NEEDED. NOW I'M THINKING ALL I'D BRING IF THAT WAS ME LAUGHING. BUT IF I'M FLEEING ALL ALONE IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT'S IN TOW, WITHOUT YOU I AIN'T GOT NO HOME.

I LAY DOWN IN MY BED, THE DAY'S TRICKLIN' AND NOW IM FALLING IN. YOU MUST'VE KNOWN EXACTLY WHERE I'D BE WAITING. THE BRUSH OF YOUR HAND SO REAL, I KNOW THAT I'M DREAMING. WITH THAT LIGHT SHINING THROUGH, MY EYES OPEN AND WAKE UP NEXT TO YOU, THE SUNSHINE PAINTING MY ROOM.

MEAGER PAWS

THE CLOUDS COME ROLLING, ROLLING, ROLLING IN. AS THE SUN GOES DOWN IT STARTS RAINING. SO WE GO INSIDE, TURN OFF THE LIGHTS, AND WE WATCH AS THE LIGHTNING TEARS A HOLE THROUGH THE SKY.

I SEE A GLIMPSE OF YOU, KNEES HELD TIGHT SEARCHING FOR YOUR WORDS- BEHIND THE MOON. THROUGH THE BLINDS IT SHINES ITS LIGHT INTO YOUR ROOM, RIGHT ON YOU.

YOUR MEAGER PAWS MOVE IN AT DUSK AND SURROUND ME. YOU'RE CAREFUL NOW, BUT YOUR EAGER EYES ARE ASTOUNDING.

THE CLOUDS COME ROLLING, ROLLING, ROLLING IN. AS THE SUN GOES DOWN IT STARTS RAINING. SO WE GO INSIDE, TURN OFF THE LIGHTS, AND WE WATCH, AS THE LIGHTNING TEARS A HOLE THROUGH THE SKY.

YOUR MEAGER PAWS MOVE IN AT DUSK AND SURROUND ME. YOU'RE CAREFUL NOW, BUT YOUR EAGER EYES ARE ASTOUNDING. MY CLAWS WILL PROWL THROUGH THE DARK OVER YOUR BONES. YOU'RE DARING NOW, FAST AS I CAN JUST TO FOLLOW.

ALL YOU CAN'T CONTROL

BLUE BIRD FADES TO GREY, AS THE WATER IN THE BAY LOSES ITS BLUE. MISCONSTRUED YOUR CRY. I HEARD YOUR LIE; I TOOK IT FOR A TRUTH.

PURGE A MIND THAT'S FULL. GRAB ALL YOU CAN'T CONTROL, IT CONTROLS YOU.

WIND TOOK YOUR WORDS UP AHEAD. I WAS WATCHING YOU INSTEAD; I TOOK YOUR CUES. SOMETIMES I'M STRONG ENOUGH. YOU DREW A BREATH AND BLEW A WIND THAT SHOOK ME LOOSE.

PURGE A MIND THAT'S FULL. GRAB ALL YOU CAN'T CONTROL, IT CONTROLS YOU.

FEATHERS CHANGE FROM BLUE; A LUSTER-LESS GREY HUE, TO MATCH THE BAY.

CONTRAILS

IT SHOWS ON MY FACE LIKE A BREATH IN COLD AIR.

I FALL THROUGH THE FOG, AND I'LL STAY SUSPENDED THERE.

I BROOD IN THE TRUTH,

I CAN NEVER HAVE YOU.

HOW LONG MUST YOU HOLD ON TO ME?

I FOLLOW YOUR LEAD LIKE CONTRAILS BEHIND A PLANE.

THE CHOICE THAT I HAVE IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAY.

I MUSE IN THE TRUTH,

 I^{\prime} LL ALWAYS BE ONE STEP BEHIND YOU.

HOW LONG MUST YOU HOLD ON TO ME?

I CAUGHT ON TOO LATE LIKE A FISH ON YOUR LINE.

I REACH FOR YOUR HEART, BUT GET DRAGGED BACK BY MINE.

I STEW IN THE TRUTH,

I CAN NEVER GET AWAY FROM YOU.

How Long Must you hold on to ME?

APTOS

I SMELL A DAMP AND HOLLOWED WOOD, THE WINDOW LACED WITH CONDENSATION. I TRACE AN OUTLINE WHERE THERE ONCE WAS A HORIZON. THE MORNING DEW WILL SOAK UP CLOSE TO NOON.

THE FISH ARRIVE IN LATE JULY. WE WALK THE DOCK UP TO THE SUNKIN' SHIP THEY GATHER BY. THEN THE FLOCKS COLLIDE, A BLACKENED CLOUD CONSUMES THE SKY, AND ONE BY ONE THE RAINDROPS FEED THE SEA.

THAT STORM STARTED WITH JUST A BREEZE.

WE'LL POST-UP ON THAT WINDOWSILL, AND WATCH IT FROM THE SHACK ON APTOS HILL,

SOMETIMES THE SUN WILL SLEEP IN TOO, AND HIDE BEHIND THE GLOOM UNTIL IT PULLS AROUND THE MOON. AND NOW WERE UPSIDE DOWN, THE STARS ARE STREWN ACROSS THE GROUND, AND FROM ABOVE WE WATCH OURSELVES BELOW.

I GO AND STAND THERE ALL THE TIME, MY TOES UP TO THE EDGE, MY HANDS CLENCHED TO A RUSTY FENCE. I LOOK DOWN FROM THE CLIFF AND SEE SOME KIDS ARE PLAYING WITH A BASEBALL BAT WASHED IN WITH OLD DEBRIS.

ONE OF THOSE KIDS WAS ME.

WE'LL RACE BACK UP THAT ROCKY TRAIL. I'LL MEET YOU AT THE SHACK ON APTOS HILL.