

Duplex ["Refrain" early draft]

My heart sleeps, with light in its envelope
If I startle, I don't say why

If I startle, I dial down, departing
Some can only love once

To love once, I found a friend, not a stranger
Speak to me, gently, like light through a veil

Like heat after a flare, you speak and I shudder
A sequoia has every vowel

Every vow like a closed hand
I will honor my body, my only

My only body, its honor, my will
Slowly, I overgrow my hair

Here is my slow, my stilled air
My leaps to see the light, how it opens

