

prayer slid under the study door

don't leave me here for hours with my glass cats shut up in the curtained room

don't leave me here moonlight on the gritty roof

don't leave me here overlooking the long backyard bordered by thorny raspberry
and crumbling garages

hulks of rusted cars standing on cinder blocks like the huge shed hulls of insects

don't leave me alone flies scattered lifeless across the sill

don't leave me alone the slanted trees

don't leave me alone all I have are the slanted trees

will you meet me there? one day?

please meet me at the slanted trees

please let me touch the sleeves of your sweater

let me roll the rough poppyseed paste up in dough for you

let me give you a drink of canteen water

please I know I ransacked your desk

I know I broke into your studio and rifled through your condoms

I know I pulled the guts out of your mix tape I know I shredded a book of poems
in revenge

I know I read your secrets scotch taped to the wall

but please the plums are rotting in the frosty grass

and the one star's a shiny metal splinter in the black heel of the sky

and this house isn't burning but help me out of the high window like it was

walk with me just across this orchard take my elbow like we're not meant to be
alone