

Quiet house

Light slices up the walls
of the womb across the stomach
of the girl picking paint flakes
from the bars breathing in the biting cold
in the warmth wasting

carpeted floors
plywood castles
nailscissor marks small bites
down the edge of the mattress
bleeding

The bundle breaks its voice
breaching phonemes like breath
clouding dancing
through the cracks in the window
like snow

ca - n n - ot // n mo - re
b - e th - s s - x - less // d - si - re -ss ch - il - d
pol - it - ic - ss like ha - i - r - ss
 ch - i - d

(Be silent. // Listen.)

Back

within the blood cell of the beast
eyes of her mother of her brother
what brother back pressed
against the headrest heaving

her brother what brother
what pills what back

broken
to fit

one door over
through the cracks

in the window
silencing the quiet
house.

like snow. // a shuffle,