

## september

water: let it flow  
    wherever it goes is home

mountain: let it sit  
    its body motionless

september's tree  
in a crack of earth  
prepares to change its clothes

water poured  
from a nearby cup  
takes my mouth as an outlet

let me sit  
beneath the tree  
and sing time's duet with a bird

the bird above                      the body below  
    the wind between us  
listening to a colorless song

i have left  
the bird behind

i want to give  
leftover sound  
to a rock  
beneath the tree

## **paper sunshine**

sometimes

i spread myself on paper  
bask in the sun  
wash the shadow  
from my brain

sunlight sneaks in  
between flesh and bone  
like pouring cold water  
on my chest

you have to stop  
to change  
your breath

sometimes

i bury myself in the desert  
endure hunger and panic

it's not a secret  
that the heart  
can't hide  
from the sun

loneliness and anger  
cover your face  
your body

and you can't see heaven