

{

I want more than a fragment I want to harden
around anything in my path I want to be
a liquid stillness trap I want power
over water & motion
if I was paralytic if I was preservative if I was preserved

}

amber captured germination
ancient pine sprouting embryonic stems
amber captures the rarest moments rare to happen
impossible to keep
in time amber caught
viviparity

photo frame parallel to life
suspended

{

I want to be caught becoming
frozen in becoming

what I catch & keep is me
what I choose
to keep

I want to be posed for eternity

}

amber when alone amber emptied
amber void
of the tick wrapped in spider silk
void of first encounters
amber void of frozen behavior & dinosaur feathers
amber without inclusion amber not
an interruption amber

built through resistance
to disintegrating forces & then left alone

on its own

}

amber is too dense to float, though less dense
than stone not the quick sink, not suspended

liminal heaviness

}

I want to be the *Aethiocarenum burmanicus*
I want to watch behind me at all times
to turn my head one hundred & eighty
degrees & see every bit of my surroundings
circling I want a chemical repellent if teeth
sink into my neck I want
them to go a slow wash of acid

I want to be triangular & uniquely
old, older than anyone else I know,
having seen everything & then all
that sight kept in a perfect pocket —
most knowing, least known