

moon tourist
jamie o'connell



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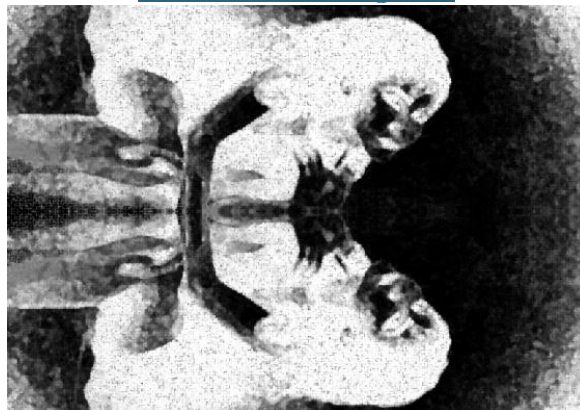
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feather canyon // river me into your mouth / wolves drink
waves / black pebbles crunch night away / rush & roll the
leaves / break the tide / light molecules / sound mirror from
trolls / rock piles whirl / a purple sky / giants eat sails &
ships / oh waterfalling friend / how I want you to swallow
whole wildfire / to drown in the wind / & wrap me in basalt /
we will be sheep / thunder crashes over moss clouds / we
can sleep here / & pull / a puddle of rain / into twilight

ghosts

geyser // the

rearview mirror /

smear

clouds / white

noise stream /

celestial / lagoon

of horses /



winter eternal // & spiral
crevasse / ice drips / out of
our mouths / bleeding ocean /
& peeling volcanic skin /
we are / the shells / &
carcasses of narwhals /

arctic oil // collective trauma / animal
bones / bird nest pulled apart / egg
cartons full of feathers / bulldoze at the
edge of waterfall / weary houses / built
on moss / the wind there / same as
the wind here / build a mountain / with
reusable paper gravestones / ethics of
recycling blood / our hunters hide in trees

the tephra

sky //

drips red

lava / my

tattooed

thumb

shatters / the

sea / extracts

oil / from

polar bear

veins /



shattered waterfalls //
sea-whipped mist &
spraying glass / you build
bird cemeteries from
feathers / & chalk moons
into slices / glacier
mirror / ashes crawl out
of ashes /

silhouette pools // we slept on a black basalt beach /
fell into creeks filled with horses and stone / arctic as my
fingertips / what brought you to the shore / butterfly effect
& buttermilk / sheep rode waves of afternoon tumble / echoes
of our bellows / twice our planet was a ghost / you slept inside
me / under covers made of moss / stone pillars dotting the
island / mark our territory / coal beats towards a symphony /
suffocate waves crash on cliffs

wrapped in wires // fish scales

collide / & veer towards the moon's

mouth / & seagulls cough the frothy

mind / spread over / cerulean seas /



snæfellsjökull //
dwelling inside / belly blue /
way more magic / than
industrial winter / narwhals on
shorelines / animal breath out
of a worm hole / messy
mementos with bones / stand
beneath the tallest tree /
purple mountains in a distant
future / escape through
wind / polar vortex whistles
arctic chill / polar bears
upon icebergs / swim swim
swim / moon molecules /
transcendent spidering
through / empty holes
forming clouds / bear echo
and wolf echo / wash swallow
rinse repeat / pull my body /
through a machine

surtshellir //
winter wander /
in mountains /
inside the mountain /
a tunnel excavated /
into volcanoes /
lava spills /
from your eyes /
your eyes your eyes /
lava inside /
your eyes /
molten eyes /
your eyes / inside
a singing cave /

arnarstapi //

shipwrecked

shoreline

/ waves blued

by fire /

black pebble

sun

splits sea

/ how sun

feeds sea /

bones, flesh

saga age // I want to fight / your nightfall /
churn your skull / into / industrial revolution /
smash icebergs / melt away rivers / receding
glaciers / how could the world / be so round /
humans must transform / before they come
ashore / behead the trees / I sentence you
to death / dear squire



snow-streaked waves // can't
sleep / staring at horses / in mud & /
midnight sunsets / birds feed on
/ my remains & / break my eyes & /
swallow the tide / so keep fishing
my blue-eyed / soul soaked dirty

lichen growing on lichen // lupine growing on ice /
draw my irises on your hands / piano descends into soil /
down chords of raindrops / escape thunder / canyons &
rivers / bedside manner of rapids / teach us to swim /
trolls hit the water / shatter into stones / I am the fish /
I am all the fish & all the shells / all the coral & all the
seaweed / all the kelp kites & ribbons / ribbon myself
into water / my body made of water /

even mountains pass away //
layered phantoms / & twilight /
spiraling grass / & wind bruises /
lichen growing on bones / & sycamores /
give birth / to illumination /
please, bodies / bring me / this earth



notes //

original versions of “winter eternal” and “even mountains pass away” were published in *FORTH Magazine*.

“saga age” and “snaefellsjokull” were published in #thesideshow, the online daily journal of *FIVE:2:ONE*.

“arnarstapi” was published in *Plum Tree Tavern*.

“silhouette pools” will be published in the June issue of *Riggwelter*.

bio //



Jamie O'Connell received her MFA in Writing from California College of the Arts. Recent poems have appeared in *FIVE:2:ONE*, *Eunoia Review*, *Plum Tree Tavern*, *Califragile*, and will soon appear in *OCCULUM*, *bad pony*, *Cacti Fur*, *Reality Hands*, and *Riggwelter*. She lives in Bend, Oregon with her glorious direwolf, Daisy. Visit her site here: <https://www.jamieoco.com/>.