Sarah J. Sloat

Flip-Book Ghazal

My last chance at happiness stops taking my calls. Wise once, then crazy. I let roulette decide which dedication to dial in.

A candle lights my interior landscape. Shadows crawl the antique thoughts, the junk I come from, the ghetto I spend my exile in.

I dream I must go on without wings; I cry for my lost crown. I dream, but am not enlightened. Like flip-book pages, old images file in.

On the street where I died the rents keep rising. It goes on like this: an accordion plays, the crew arrives, drives the stake another mile in.

I set the snow angels a notch below simmer. Hems flicker, aflame. Gasblue and cold is the gown I will walk down the aisle in.

Kestrel

Sleeve

Channel a body whether belled or billowing in which the limb is a line composed in longhand.

Oblige the shrug and bend. Intimate corridor, at once a floor, walls and roof that glance against

their denizen, house the guessed-at silhouette made flesh

where a cuff may pucker and a hand fan out—

a wheel with spokes, a star, come shooting.

Typeface #10

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