

Alyse Knorr

**Alice Writes Down Everything She Needs
to Remember About Jenny**

to lose weight for a play one month ate only saltine crackers

kept a white bishop in the pocket of her jacket for luck

played Maria

played Juliet

played Christine

played chess

took off all her clothes and led me to a pool on a skyscraper

shoots skeet with a shotgun

smells like an orchestra tuning and the sea

told me a fact about icebergs I didn't know

called my hands delicate yet also strong

cheated on every geography test in high school

grandmother was a florist

doesn't eat salmon

left side of the bed

blue

Alice in the Second Act

an hour to awe her street black hair

light ribbons it: keys on a clarinet

crow-covered wheat field

when I blink the birds shuffle

and ascend

in her living room my shaking fingers

sweat dropped onto the prongs

a jolt a rock through to marrow

her mouth hovered shaping my name

tongue to her teeth for the L

