MARY LOU SOUTAR-HYNES

Variations

Take note of turbulence
the way a collar frames her face, blouse
loosely falling —
irruptions
of red admirals, jewels on the wing
Claim all lands between high and low tide
create ordinances
then a guard around
your heart’s perimeter —
a chain-link fence
Safer to rough it on the margins, rocked
by lines of poetry
dreaming icebergs, edges sharp, a lucent
greening —
all dues paid

Mind over Matter

Today the air is still,
a raw sienna settling ash —
mists curl between conifers
in the ravine,
the lake all curves, undulations

Spanning the river,
the bridge recedes, languid, alert,
arcing —
invitation’s quiet utterance

All those unbridgeable
reaches across the years, striving for closure

Just kiss the rock,
she said, move on

while memories breach the levees — tattered,
whisper-thin

Mary Lou Soutar-Hynes’s poetry appears earlier in this volume.