

CONTENTS

One

Vernal Equinox	3
Epigenetics	4
Barbed	5
Bone Thin	6
After the Fire	7
Subsequently Hereafter	8
Son in Moonlight	9
Alone in the House of My Heart	10
Splintered	12
Ten O'clock, the Day Already Threatening	13
Bobcat	14

Two

Do Not Disturb	17
Ohio Struggles to Contain COVID-19 Nursing Home Deaths	18
Outside Her Window	19
The Softening	20
Undefined Despair	21
I Look for My Dead Mother in New York	22
Rare Birds	24
Because Autumn Always Clotheslines Me	25
To Those Messaging Me after My Mother's Passing	26

Obituary	28
Snapshot	29

Three

Tennessee Homeland	33
Illumination	34
The Trouble with Apples	36
The House, the Barn, the Sheep, the Chickens	37
Bad Blood	38
The Whole Shebang up for Debate	39
Before Booze, Oxy, and Vikes	41
To Save a Life	42
You Know the Story	44
An Appalachian Woman's Guide to Beer Drinking	46
Tonight the Winds	47
Badasses	48
To No One in Particular	50
River's Way	52

Four

Girls of Summer	55
Hella Barbie 1968	57
Totemic Sponsors	59
Weather Report	61
Cousin	62
Buzz Whitedog	63
Today I'm Lying in the Fetal Position	65

Leftovers	67
Say His Name	69

Five

Ending	73
Because Coal	74
Power Out on the Mountain	75
Rorschach Test	76
Oh You Woman of Appalachia	78
Sense of One's Place	80
The Work of Self-Loathing	81
Apology to My Body	82
By All Indications	84
Sunday Morning Dancing	85
Don't Fear the Reaper	86
Acknowledgments	89
About the Author	93