

I Wanted To Say That Your Hands Are Like Unfurling Leaves

by Kirsty Logan

But I didn't sleep well and my dreams were full of octopi
and mice eyes and dripping water and strings tightening on my wrists
and when I woke you were smiling like your mouth was full of chocolate buttons
and the late morning sun was haloing your hair golden but I knew my eyes were crusted.

I wanted to say that you looked sweeter than a slice of ginger cake
but you forgot to put sugar in my coffee and I forgot to take the recycling out
and neither of us wanted to wash the dog so we stared at our laptop screens and frowned
and pretended we were doing Very Important Things but only living things are important really.

I wanted to hold you tighter than a koala holds a eucalyptus branch
but you left the bathroom light on and didn't want to go out for lunch
and like a child I was hungry and grumpy and wanted you to look at me
and I told you we weren't working when really you're the only thing that doesn't need fixed.

I wanted to say that your hands are like unfurling leaves
so I waited until you fell asleep on the couch
and I lay on the floor next to you
and I pressed your palm to my lips.

