

# Gaze

*by* XXXX

to think of him looking at me  
for he to be I and I to be he  
it is almost unbearable  
to occupy two bodies at once—  
does he think of what it is like  
to look at him?

if he only does once in a while  
then he will know what it means  
to be filled  
with petals of chamomile  
and orchids until  
the seams of your skin  
threaten to burst open

and if I imagine his gaze  
looking at me as I cross my legs  
and drink coffee with a  
pretentious pinky in the air  
my mouth only fills slowly  
with vomit and bile.

It is sweet suffering,  
blessed sacrifice.

