

Saturation Diver

La Dispute

A flash above you, fading
The end of days arrived and went
Left you unselected, tethered down
A promise kept, denied
Resurrecting angels high above
Would save from drowning
A saturation diver
Ankles tangled, helpless in the line

And you wonder
Will your dead self show
The years you spent avoidant and dissociating?
Sliding down the slope
Were you pressured and extorted?
Was it some force beyond control
Or you alone?

A TV, muted, plays disaster films inside an empty home
Two brothers, standing in a wide shot
Staring downward in the snow

At the mercy of the current
Body turns underwater
Swallows all of it
Tumble in the flow
Frames flicker, glowing backwards as you go
Every moment past projected
In the hidden tunnels home

There's the basement of your parents
Your siblings on the staircase
The ice sheets on the pavement
Where you, drifting sideways, crashed into the snow
To you, there shaving
When the mirror showed a stranger
You felt sure he looked familiar
Now you wake on the embankment
All alone

A close-up, focused on a woman's face
Awake late on her phone
All things that everybody knows
A muted TV plays disaster films
But nobody's at home

Life eternal in repose
A body floating in the creek below
Three fires burning in the snow
All things that everybody knows
All life eternal in repose
The way the bodies started glowing
All around you, floating upward
On the ground below
No beam of light to take you home