

“6.—Branches. Branches crossing the air. Branches cutting the air. Cutting across the interminable skin of sky. Lashing the sky. Of us all you have is shreds of sky, fervor. We are shreds. Live parts of a tree. Goldwork applied painfully onto the air, the skin of air is what you have. The blue flesh of sky. Skin that you cannot trample. We want you to want to hug us. We like that you try to hold onto the sky. We like that your hands knock against the branches. We like that you direct the branches in the air. We all want you to cut us. A gust of birds. We want you to cover our mouths. The strands of your veins calmly against the skin of sky. Hold us from within the pulse, fervor.”

“7.—Close us. Destroy our mouths. Enter. Torture us in other realities. Take us with your mind and your word. Bring us to our knees. May your gust of birds pass over us. Convert us in a sky cut across by branches. Capture us by the throat as with animals. As with animals, fervor.”

“8.—We came to visit your bed. A cluster of girls. Everything was very ambiguous. Everything was bloodless. We came. To approach you. To find your hands ready for torture. To stain you for when you wake. We are a cluster of girls playing at kissing each other. Taking you by the hands. Dazzle. We aren't doing anything bad. We are not pain not exhaustion not death.”

“9.—The black image for you as you sleep.  
A transparent vice. Be the gust of birds. A  
gust of birds, hot. Be the whirr boiling. Be  
on top of us at the end of that flight. May  
their beaks shatter. May they terminate and  
ache in termination.”

“10.—We all want you to keep us alive. We want you to hold us at a boil. For you to say yes and then some. For you to command us, lie down and show me your tongues. We all want you to redden us. For you to cut across us. We want to receive the blow of your tongue and lose ourselves. Try to hold onto us and take us on a stroll. Try to discover what we are. We are your codes, a line of figures for you to subjugate. Numbers, red and brilliant. Boiling.”