

the way the universe will end, scenario no. 4

16 1. they say it started with a double exposure, a planet there then gone. 2. when we say we want a creation story what we mean is we want a myth that we can believe in. 3. so she hands you the knife. she doesn't tell you how the fish dies; just knows. 4. that the world is shrinking, which is different than becoming small. 5. because. 6. this isn't a metaphor. 7. when we say that we are wounded what we mean is that, sometimes, honeybees become canaries. 8. what we mean is: birthday candle; then smoke, then smoke. 9. so draw *your dead, & draw your living*. 10. *now tell me who smiles more?* you said, you said—

no pulp, or a lesson in permeance

& suddenly the summer heat blushes mango ripe / buries her hurricane
stone in my throat / & this is a body pressed: reserve the juice—

pour it into the cheek of another & call it *magnolia tree* / call it *150 hands*
at your back / i need a witness for all these miracles—

the dogwoods dressed in dappled fever / & you, making a pupil of my tongue
like i said: *miracles* / like i said—

i scatter hair everywhere i go, i will haunt these lemon groves sour / so save
the rinds & divide the flesh / make a pulpit out of all of this—

this is my body: now eat.