

Lesson 1:

“Ice Would Suffice”

Risa Denenberg

How swift, how far
the sea
carries a body from shore.

Empires fail, species are lost,
spotted frogs
and tufted puffins forsaken.

5

After eons of fauna and flora, hominids have stood
for mere years
baffled brains atop battered shoulders.

In a murky blanket of heavens
an icy planet
made of diamond spins.

10

Our sun winks like the star
it was
billions of years ago, without ambition.

15

We bury bodies in shallow dirt, heedless of lacking
space
or how long
our makeshift planet will host us.