

hairsbreath

i aim to be luxe by the end
clothes of animal skin to keep the skin in
bejeweled with sores
and still smelling like a neon peach

walking through saks fifth avenune
feeling not at all like i'm crashing a wedding
with a well-groomed vocabulary
breasts hard as rocks from hearing the words
cream lily

admittedly as i write this poem
i am regretfully nude
but one day
when the sky's the color of cotton pajamas
i'll be embalmed in lotion
lithe and limp
snug inside a supple leather watchband
with a mouthful of ribbons

and after my ascent into heaven,
the last fumes from the vial,
just throw the damn packaging away

JULY 16TH, 2015

An old woman with her shirt falling off
escorted out of a police car and into the nursing home across from my apartment
Welcome home or welcome back
I don't know where to look

EURYDICE

My brilliant older professor boyfriend took me to see a modern adaptation of Eurydice downtown because it was written by his brilliant college chum and when I couldn't stop crying during the scene in which Eurydice's father makes Eurydice a house out of string in hell even though she has no memory of him my brilliant older professor boyfriend didn't put his arm around me and don't you know I didn't cry when I left him

DEAD PHONE IN NEW YORK CITY

I am confident that I can remember my way back to Natasha's house

On the train, a woman's beautiful shoes are beautiful
and strike me as utterly horrible
and alienating to someone who doesn't know what shoes are

I can't remember the way back to Natasha's house

A WEEKEND WITHOUT TECHNO

For Simone

6:30am she is awake from being previously asleep
Cold hair and walls

Simone takes slow steps from her bed to the window

There's coffee
What else
Milk and fruit
Could fill an hour or more of the day, but not yet

She wraps the blanket closer and is silent through the silence
A shower could take an hour too
What else what else,
What else to do today

BRITTANY DENNISON

Brittany Dennison is a poet from St. Louis and Seattle, and currently lives in New York where she works at New Directions. She has poems forthcoming in *The Literary Review* and *Electric Literature*, and has been published in *Grappa*, *The West Wind Review*, *Abraham Lincoln*, and *Pacifica Literary Review*.