Jackie Moran

Added Dimensions

—for Emily

morning coffee is forever slipping away like this ... the day begins and the bad dream replaces ... standing alone outside I watch his movements ... I don't know him ... his name ... or mine ...

I just want to want as I am and in the greed of his stare I am abundance ... and my body's silence is declared—finding in myself words to speak I desire more and follow him ...

a small voice calls me back to the stale kitchen smell arranged in stories of wife and mother listening to the chatter of details ... I organize myself in others ... school meetings and dance lessons, birthdays and bake sales, fund raiser for the camping trip, dinners at the club ... weekly garbage days

and I seem to be my mother ... for all the times she couldn't find the words ...

another week alone and lonely ... clever you can't hear me anymore ... even when you touch me and call it love

your stains sectioned off ... quarantined ... identified and manly ... I dress the kids for school mits school bags lunches I kiss cheeks and let the cat out ... good-bye ...

and pulsed to the sound of a CBC talk show I start to sort the clothes ... 'colours ... whites and I speak to you ... in my body ...