Opening the Yellowhead Route

Roadway through rockcut
deceptive
curling over slow long looping curves
of yesterday’s crustaceans
hiding the agony — orogeny
10 billion individual yesterdays
crust compacted crushed
pressured to a global growth ring.
Simple enough dichotomies
solid-liquid flesh-stone
wilderness-
But follow the trilobite
scuttling beetle-bodied over muddy-bottom
caught — in a shale-grey layer caressed —
solidified —
melted —
shoved molten up the weaknesses
of a granite
a cool jagged rhythm of changes.

— Marsha Mitchell