The Language of Smooth Bodies

the language of smooth bodies
is quick cool slippery-tongued
syllables flash myriad sunspots
darting beneath bones shimmering
with echoes of vibrating flesh

eyes glaze an inner vision
voiced in whispers of blood
trickling into words gliding
on the current, pale forms slithering
into each other, holding shapes
brief as scudding cloud shadows

slender ribs curve above caged breath
rippling flesh with a sigh ebbing
and swelling in sparkling circles
undulating on waves of sound
rising, plunging into silence

the language of smooth bodies
transforms the universe with reverberations
of a thousand-petalled lotus
unfolding, scenting the air
as it fleshes forth its essential song

— Amanda Hale