

LISTEN CHEN / THE FUTURE IS FLORAL

D.'s picture of greenland from a satellite tacked on the wall above the spot where the bean bag sat a field of solid white

w/ rugose fringe & dark blue ruptures clouds frothing

overhead as we googled 'glacier' & combed the online forum *I have travelled to many places where you can find all the evidence of glaciers like moreins big scratched rocks small lakes and carved mountains and I have been in rivers with giant watered eroded rocks that were clearly washed down by enormous defreezing rivers that no longer exists* glaciers being dense bodies constantly eroding under their own weight the three of us sprawled on D.'s bed & C. unbuckling C.'s belt when the accumulation of snow exceeds the volume & momentum of its own ablation a glacier may form

over a very long period of time

my ability to keep track of events by sequence & duration muddled by gloomy mementos & obtuse prepositions time being a hooded blanket & death

a promised longing for erasure *when did mexico have glaciers?* thanks to the wgms

we now have data confirming the dramatic retreats of glaciers worldwide one theory suggesting that internal variables lead to critical accumulations of ice that trigger mass slippage due to softer sub-glacial sedimentation

so even the arctic binges & purges D. saying

C. not getting the joke

what's your favourite episode of planet earth D. saying

C. not replying

is it from pole to pole D. said while I kept my hands busy rolling a joint this being roughly thirteen years ago or some other comparable interval at 2 PM we lifted a plastic road sign from a construction site on triumph & brought it to queen e toppling over on our way down heat escaping vaporously from our heads L. landing upright w/ legs stretched out A. wheeling into L.'s back & L.'s arm caught in the shoelace handle we'd tied to the sign while snow packed into my left ear I skid past D. veering off the sled-plowed track supinated & flailing in the bushes oh god D. said laughing my sensitive teeth my *scarred at the turn of the century* sensitive teeth the cold air singing our nostrils pleasantly free of discernible pollutants & the city's drinking water still as stone

beneath the parking lot 29 days

after an arctic current dragged D.'s body against the ice they released an occupational safety bulletin *breathing rate and stroke rate increase but not together* & other useful information beginning w/ *if you do fall in the ice core* taken from dome c in antarctica 3270 metres long reaching back 800,000 years isn't it funny how things get lost in the remainder *change is difficult to understand* the scientist declared to the ocular lens while D. paced excitedly

tiny grains of pollen D. said are surprisingly resilient an important presence in the fossil record first appearing approximately 400 million years ago & steadily proliferating meanwhile

I've never understood what it means to leave no trace *water conquers by yielding* except in terms of my own laughably inconsequential losses

the conversation ending 28 minutes later

which was roughly 4 years ago &

somewhere our slow evacuation lies suspended in ice time moving as if burdened by unknown detritus its insoluble omens hidden in accidental contiguities & populations of dirt the sign at the foot of the hill mantled in snow the edges of its lettering as brittle as a poorly filled tooth beside an empty quarry turned sunken garden turned

five-axle truck loaded w/ wood fibre isn't all grief just a white mantle resting on a sign that points elsewhere D.'s body unravelling like a pale ribbon at the bottom of a cold mouth while the parquet jerks w/ an integer's limp & flowers festoon our footsteps what's the market price of tulips these days anyway & how much of bc's 48,200 km of paved road may I say belongs to me

D.'s historical tidal volume being approx. 428 mL by my calculations

strip oak flooring classified under tariff item 4409.29.10

salt lowering the freezing temperature of seawater to -2 degrees celsius &

circa last global assessment the highest concentrations of respirable particles per metre cubed were found in delhi patna gwalior raipur karachi peshawar rawalpindi khorramabad ahmedabad & lucknow a total of 61.62 million people w/ their alveoli blanketed in the unbreathable

while a red rowboat floats in captain vancouver's reservoir *45-million gallons of water*

in two separate earthquake-proof cells & a speck of pollen sits on the coal swamp floor