

# woman making tea

Dallas Hunt

*For Annie Pootoogook*

you hold tight  
to a  
single  
hanging  
slingshot, to protect  
against  
the flash-  
bulbs  
and negligent  
headlines

deadwood leaves  
shine light  
where safe  
shadows  
harbour  
those fleeing  
heavy hands

writers' deadlines  
complicit in flat-  
lines, food lines,  
procession  
lines—  
looking for but  
unseeing the  
scoop(s)

gawking, with  
the death of print  
culture weighing  
heavy, benefit  
from the benefits that  
keep the  
taste of  
perfect teeth  
in their  
mouths

seeing your photo now,  
appreciating  
the gentle shadings  
of your eyebrows and  
the cracks that  
line your face

lines that  
hold  
constellations and  
such small,  
ordinary gifts  
that you  
gave to  
us all