Common Coin

J. Robert Ferguson

for Cam Scott

my hands
hair
cruelty
buses
shoes
phones
chairs
stones
meat
garbage bags
discomfort
pigeons
stares
houses
floors
pennies (fewer now)
warmth
parked cars
junk mail
spam
"thank you"
"sorry"
"excuse me"
sleeves
elm trees
squirrels
bladder pressure (not too much)
Youtube comments
looking away
eyelid tics
intestinal pain
the last two months of summer
bananas

thirst
words from Latin
words from Greek
depression
violent death (media)
fear
bread
bad news
tears
touch
touchability
airplanes
helicopters
climate change
climate change denial
numbness
the sun
the moon
chain-link fences
'bad neighbourhoods'
avoiding public spaces (crowded)
laughter
salt packets
coffee
churches (Protestant, mostly)
recordings of bells
conversations on the bus
legs falling asleep
my breath
your pulse
sports highlights in bars
secret prisons
federal prisons
Van Gogh prints in apartment building hallways
absentee landlords
profanity
cameras on buses
traffic signs (non-pedestrian)
indoor plumbing

my cavities (mostly)
abandoned warehouses
old Tim Hortons buildings that have been repurposed
canker sores
nuclear war (4 a.m.)
mass extinction
travel mugs (always forgetting at home)
biting my lips
(water bottles too)
comma splice
Manitoban accents
split infinitives
plants (indoors)
the federal conservative party (these days, ha-ha)
sleeping in movie theatres
son et lumière
gardening gloves
Californian wildfires
Australian wildfires
Canadian wildfires
dog leashes
glass sitting on a nightstand (one-third filled with water)
blinking
Quaker Oats
radiators
the 'Dean Scream'
"love you too"
ritual
my political stances from one, two, five years ago
reactionary notions on the decline of Western civilization
'money trouble'
toques (in summer)
toques (worn inside) in winter
a pencil behind the ear
the smell of mulch
window sills
parallax
doorsteps
pulling my hair out (plus other nervous habits)
coffee stains on the wall near an indoor trashcan
residual light on the inside of my eyelids