

BIRD BRAID

Bird in the walls. Where is she?
She's stretched out
Cascade of wings hits the window rippling.
Paint the room to look bigger than itself
Paint the word *bird*.
Bird belongs to herself.
Bird braids herself.
Bird braids tales to the egg.
Egg listens to bird.
Listen to the bird to return again.
To the egg, show a feather.
To the bird, return as an egg.
Three feathers braid them.
The doors are gone,
The windows are gone.
Bird, what is left but egg?
Bird, who are you looking for?
Face against time. Ask.
Find out what is in her psyche.
Shell.
All curled up inside herself.
A bird braids into the wall.
A bird at rest returns red.
Licks of soap.
Echos of three faces.
They visit your body, bird.
She builds windows out of walls.
Bird braids building eggshells.
Voicebox braid.
Feathers braid.
Legs braid.
Three harmonies.
Beams braiding.
In a corner, *configurations of bones,*
Red is gone.

Nest apocalypse.
Strings up into the pelvis.
Bird returns
Back in the time trap.

Nest cracks open.
Bird braids fly into eggs
Strings attached
Bird upright.

Language upright, licks.
Attached bird.
Strings to egg.

Language strikes matchstick.
Matchstick strikes bird.
Matchstick strikes braid.
Please, offspring listen.
Struck wonder against a wall
Shadows appear, the doors are gone.

Open up space, for wider, more open spaces
Body against a wall.
Tilted birds burn.
Strike up an offering
deal.

Match strikes bird.
Bird strikes her head against a wall.
Bird strikes her head into an egg.
Match strikes her head up against a bird.
Bird braids her head into a nest.
Head turns birds into walls.
Heads of birds sing into the wall.

Wide open birds stretch into wide open spaces.
Walls claim eggs.

She finds sanctuary here.