

I was out tonight walking around,  
sitting in the bookstore,  
looking into gallery windows.

I waited all week for the weekend  
like it was going to offer some sort of relief  
but it has only made me realize how quiet it is now.

I work all day wanting nothing more than to be off,  
but at the end of the day I have to cook for a one top  
seated at a four, seated with all the ghosts  
of all the dinners I made you.

The jokes we told each other there  
the kiss just behind my ear after the first bite,  
those seated with the first night, the last.

And to the left there is the couple slow dancing  
next to the heater. The couple the whole place watches  
they are still lost in the necks of the other.  
Its hard to remember ever being there  
but we watch them just the same.

Then I blink and try to read the paper.  
I wash the dishes and put the leftovers  
away into my brimming refrigerator.

I just keep buying food.  
I'm not even eating that much,  
I just go to the store and buy food  
and put it in the fridge and it makes me feel better.

I clean the house throwing away anything he didn't take with him.  
Take the trash out, wash the sheets and blankets.

I go to the store and get all the things  
I want to eat but never wanted to spend the money on.  
Buy a stack of sad songs,  
a handful of sexy new underwear  
and new sweat pants to lie around in.

I smoke a couple cigarettes, watch movies  
and drag the cats to lie on both sides of me in the bed.  
Curling the pillows down to where he  
used to lay so when I reach for him in sleep  
I don't wake up all the way confused with the emptiness.

I make myself work, call back clients,  
go out alone to listen to music.

I sit and read, or walk through the park  
petting as many dogs as their owners will allow;  
I'm that girl at the dog park.

I try to imagine myself not feeling this way  
sitting in the house I always dreamt about,  
sitting in a rocking chair on that house's porch  
watching the garden grow and the dogs play in the drive.