

HS

In The Seam

*my worst fear is drowning
but then i
think about how it would feel
submerged beneath the dappled waves
the skin of the sea*

dull

thick

*wedged
between my teeth
ten thousand miles of black linen
sewn down the seam
fathoms of black
like deep mines of flesh
prickles of sunlight*

*like stars
the size of neurons*

*i
can imagine the deep milky silence
sweet
almost solid beneath my back
buttery light
washing around*

*where the only sound is
the rustle of invisible beings traversing
through folds of water*

*i
can almost feel my fear rising
writhing
from my toes and stickily
gathering at my elbows
the fear of falling
through black*

*So when i look down at the seeming
black void
beneath my belly
this liquid Mother who embraces me
i
can hear the
clicking
orchestra of sperm whales
their heartbeat
booming softly*

*and the rosy glow of jellyfish
pulsing on and off*

*and the tiny fish
of silvered armor and gilded scales*

*and the tentacles of squid
expanding
shrinking like our diaphragm*

*i
think even without oxygen
i'll be okay
because i have witnessed
the unseen beauty
that glimmers in these deep*

coruscating

waters

Being scared initially but recognizing the beauty