KATE NORTHROP

Water, Five Ways

Katie, don't you sound like your mother! Feeling of a river, back in time, way back. Feeling of replacing a bulb in a socket.

When I answer the landline in my mother's house, the house wanders off. *Oh*, *no!* I keep waving.

Feeling of sea-froth sliding around see-through to sand. Once, early morning after carnival, masks were dropped

in the river and there we saw them dissolve, like evening light pulling across a lawn.

The events were over

but some people still milling about: feeling of rocks again under foot, of a bind, feeling of jimmying a stuck kitchen drawer.