

MATCHSTICK HOUSES AND FAWN PANIC AND WORDS LIKE "INFERNO"
THAT HAVE STOPPED CARRYING MEANING JUST SYLLABLES THAT
IN THE TIME TAKEN TO SPREAD THEM ACROSS THE MOUTHS OF REPORTERS
ANOTHER FOUR DESERT WILLOWS ARE DIVORCED OF STARLINGS BEFORE
TRANSFORMING INTO PLUMES OF SMOKE AND ONE BIG COLLECTIVE GHOST OF
PALMS AND PINES THAT WEREN'T MEANT TO LIVE HERE BUT DID WHAT COUNTS AS TRYING THEIR BEST AND WHY DID
THEY HAVE TO GO UP IN ONE BIG CANDLEWICK AND CRUSH THE ROOF OF THE VOLVO THAT'S NOW A METAL CAGE
LIKE
THE ONES WE USED TO KEEP RABBITS IN? AND CAN CONTAIN JUST
THE END OF WHAT WAS HOME
AND INSIDE I'M TOUCH PAPER, SPILLS, AND KINDLING WITH BLAME HITTING ME
LIKE A FLAME THROWER -- AS IF YOU'RE NOT TO BLAME
THE TRUTH IS YOU ARE TO BLAME WITH YOUR DRILLING AND AMASSING
AND BABIES UPON BABIES TO RIDE IN SUVs AND TO LEARN TO THINK WATER COMES IN PLASTIC INSTEAD OF FROM
THE GROUND THAT'S NOW CHARRED YES THIS PARTICULAR APOCALYPSE IS YOURS AND I WILL NOT CLAIM IT NO
MATTER HOW MUCH YOU YELL
WE WILL NOT CLAIM IT WE WILL FURBISH THE FILTERS AND
HOUSE THE COUPLE IN THEIR 90S WHO CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT WAS LEFT IN THE ATTIC BEFORE IT BURNED BUT
KNOW THEY CAN'T BREATHE THIS AIR RIGHT NOW
AND ADOPT THE LABRADOR WHO CAN'T FIND ITS PARENTS AND COLLECT THE DEBRIS AND BURY THE FIVE DEAD AND
COUNTING AND MEND THE BROKEN WINGS
AND CART SKUNKS CANNOT STINK TO SAVE THEMSELVES TO NEW HIDEAWAYS
AND READ THE BOOKS TO THE TODDLERS IN THE LIBRARY THAT'S A SHELTER
IN THE HIGH PURER AIR
AND I WILL HELP AND WE WILL ALL BRING IN OUR HANDS
AND WE WILL MOURN FOR CALIFORNIA IN THE FACE OF SCARRED AND UGLY VITUPERATION
AND WE WILL DANCE FOR RAIN AND REMIND OUR KIDS HOW BEAUTIFUL
THE EDGE OF THE OCEAN IS AND THAT THE SEALS WILL WATCH WITH LIMPID EYES FOR OUR RETURN TO SHORE
WHERE WE'LL WAVE TO THEM
AND THE SAND WILL BE WASHED TO THE COLOR OF SAND
AND THE MOUNTAINS WILL GREEN AGAIN AND WE WILL SAY WHAT BEAUTY IS THAT SURVIVES THE CANCER AND THE
CHEMO AND THE RADIATION SO THE FINE BONES THAT MAKE TRUE BEAUTY WILL SHOW AGAIN AS THE SKIES CLEAR
AND THE GROUND CAN WELCOME US AGAIN