

2-20-2018

Two Poems

Joanna Lilley

 Part of the [Critical and Cultural Studies Commons](#), [Literature in English, North America Commons](#), [Nature and Society Relations Commons](#), [Place and Environment Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Follow this and additional works at / Suivez-nous ainsi que d'autres travaux et œuvres:

<https://scholars.wlu.ca/thegoose>

Recommended Citation / Citation recommandée

Lilley, Joanna. "Two Poems." *The Goose*, vol. 16, no. 2, article 42, 2018,
<https://scholars.wlu.ca/thegoose/vol16/iss2/42>.

This article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholars Commons @ Laurier. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Goose by an authorized editor of Scholars Commons @ Laurier. For more information, please contact scholarscommons@wlu.ca.

Cet article vous est accessible gratuitement et en libre accès grâce à Scholars Commons @ Laurier. Le texte a été approuvé pour faire partie intégrante de la revue The Goose par un rédacteur autorisé de Scholars Commons @ Laurier. Pour de plus amples informations, contactez scholarscommons@wlu.ca.

Tylosaurus

More shadow than bone,
lavender phalanges projected
on a pale wall.
Ribs drip from a tangled
riverbank of vertebrae.

X-ray mosasaur,
stone-eyed, palm-holed,
your lacquered bones
hang in the order you died
inside a river hill.

You sea-swam, flipper-steered,
plotted pygal, caudal twists
to cage seabirds, sharks
and plesiosaurs in your teeth –
and gulp.

Omācīw. Hunter of the Prairie Sea.
Your prey never named you.
You were sea shudder
on skin, scale, feather.
You were unstoppable tide.

Eelgrass Limpet

Take a pair of scissors
to the old striped cushion
on Grandmother's
Atlantic-weathered porch.
It might be stuffed
with pale eelgrass.

Among the tangled blades
there might be a shell.
Tawny, more oblong than round,
a modest brooch:
the eelgrass limpet.
The last one died
between the human wars.
You might have sat on it
for years, drinking tea
and staring at the sea.

JOANNA LILLEY is the author of the poetry collections *If There Were Roads* (Turnstone Press), and *The Fleece Era* (Brick Books), which was nominated for the Fred Cogswell Award for Excellence in Poetry. She is also the author of the short story collection *The Birthday Books* (Hagios Press). Joanna is from the UK and now lives in Whitehorse, Yukon. You can find her online at www.joannalilley.com.