Midnight Almanac

Fugitive but wise, this line speaks to me. I can feel

its peristalsis. A steepe, a map, an orientation.

The moon, a failed political party. At its last quarter, it can't govern clouds. Rain softens at no condition.

All the parallel windows, different emptiness.

The elf picked up a twig. Sat on a slabstone. With juice from ferns he cooled his fever off, to nightwalkers he sang,

Take it easy now.

Discarded buses at a traveler's hour. A truck passed ahead. Yet the stoplight predicted our father would return.

My city can heal water violin, water wings. Only if you waited long enough.

A peach tree turns green after a thousand years. And the servants taste the fruits quietly, in the fable this is what happened before the snow. Here is the truth: a girl considered violence under the tree, and the tree couldn't turn her away.

Predator—One who reads aloud the ten grave precepts. *Mourn*—Via finite waves.

Ajar—To return to the world where we first began, the breath and the body must be linear at each meal.

A Baroque guitar—The tavern is open for reservations. *Solitude*—No, I burn diaries.

When the plot wore thin, Balzac deleted the moon from another town.

Torn by the lyric, the myth trailed like embers through the jade palace. A master in the clouds, light rippling behind. What was the reason for slow separation?

The sea, a sea with edges.

Are you not my caretaker. Ninety francs, informed by two letters.

What is buried in the earth grows out of the earth. I see in it a reminder. Of daily objects
—buttons, toilet paper...

Petrarch.

A saucer, not a saucer. Quick memory in a coffee stain.

In my bed, spooning pear jam for my lover. Our silk duvet, neither form nor style. Let me give you all

before sleeping in your palm.