

A Poem on Love

Katherine Bode-Lang

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Katherine Bode-Lang is the author of *The Reformation*, which won the 2014 *American Poetry Review*/Honickman First Book Prize.

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When I first met him, it was the river,
frost on the windows in the morning, olive oil.
Then bread and wine, the mountains.
Coffee comfortable chairs. Lights. When he loves,
he loves so fully, it's as if the world did not
exist for him before the sound of dried leaves
on the sidewalk or the moon quietly rising.
He has brought every small joy with him,
a tender trail marking the way to here: today,
late afternoon when the sky fills and the trees
start to scratch. Watch him marvel at the color gray.