



In Extremis We

the taking of the readings has begun;
the fount divination is omegic come.
do not wrestle out of the jacket
of the last lesson of parch

it zips up
and you are in it
and you are in it

and you are sat there
in the bloom of slake
and caught.

do not shrug out
of the mantle of quench
of the cloth of the last arid day

it draws up
and you are in it
and you are in it

and you are sat there in the florid teaching
weir-ed and lopped;
mind a sharpening strop
for what whets across:

all is a
dwindling
harbour

all is duress
garlanding
up your leg

the purchase of the knife was good
but still:
a trenchant clatter;

a bad cut florescing
nacre
from a source portending
ichor.

what jetsammed
falls in curls to what floor

what splayed
in what lake

one of us lapping
one of us back
one of us a purling wake
one of us shoulder
one of us tap

Charon is that you
plunging your pole in
and pushing off

coming this way
in the rippling now-dark

coming small churn
come whelk
come ruse

come krill bloom grid
taking vertical cues

i keep two wounds open to either side of my
head
i keep two—

wet finger in the vortex
what presage you

Pherein Phoron debarks gingerly.
the blenny nips deceptively.
glass barometer under tongue
surges feverishly.

flotsam casket circles eddy.

you leave in extremis we.

hic sunt ungoverned cuts.
hic sunt wave moving into blunt.
hic sunt imaginal cells bobbing into place.
hic sunt windsock in-caved.

hic sunt a shored-up packing case.

uncrate the Judas goat:
it leads the way.