

GAINING AMBER

David E. LeCount



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By David E. LeCompt
Trans. by David E. LeCompt

LOVE POEMS
FOR AMBER

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FOR ARLA

Edited by

Alexis Kaye Rotella

*Take off your shoes
and follow me . . .
the tide is sneaking to China*

**Swatting the toddler –
her attention on the bread
that might not rise**

*Barefoot in the woods,
her toes startled
by a mushroom cap*

*Her hair in the breeze –
tips of ribbons
trailing butterflies*

*In this wind
the cling of her dress
sucking on bones*

*Braiding her hair . . .
the whimsy of a picnic
in deer-high grass*

*The wind blows
tall grass into my face –
lying in your shadow is cold*

*Nervous about the soup
for dinner she sings away
between shuffling spoons*

There is about the soup
for dinner the same thing
between anything at all.

**Sunset through
her tortoise-shell barrette,
losing, gaining amber**

Can't get through
her tortoise-shell bottle
losing, getting under

**Cleaning out
my jeans' pocket,
her hand lingers inside**

Learning and
my heart, pocket
for hand luggage

*Hands on her hips –
at last my foolish argument
finds its right ridicule*

stands on her hip -
on that my foolish argument
finds its right niche

*At the spinning wheel,
the softness swiftly flowing
through her hands*

At the spinning wheel
The softness softly flowing
Through her hands

*Lost in thought,
her waiting takes the shape
of her shadow*

Lost in thought
her walking takes the shape
of her shadow

*Like a candle she is . . .
when I sneak up behind her
a shadow startles loose*

Like a candle she is . . .
when I look up behind her
a shadow stories loose

*Reminiscing about Alaska,
the third button of her blouse
left wildly undone*

the history of the
the third person of the plural
the history of the

*Rock slowly,
there are two of us
in this chair*

Rock already
there are two of us
in this choir

*A cloud moves –
the necklace she finds there
is missing stars*

A cloud moves -
the necklace she had there
is missing now

*In her hands
she holds silence,
one petal at a time*

in her hands
she holds silence
one petal at a time





