

1998

## Shoveling

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## Shoveling

Without a claim on the snow coming down  
 My back aches within the folds of the couch  
 The cat yawns, adjusts the slant of her crown  
 My will is measured by the degree that I slouch

My back aches within the folds of the couch  
 The tangled white trees sink cold through my teeth  
 My will is measured by the degree that I slouch  
 Each buried layer cries for some kind of relief

The tangled white trees sink cold through my teeth  
 As the shovel drips down the mug steams in reply  
 Each buried layer cries for some kind of relief  
 The cold draws in a breath as the fire dies

The cat yawns, adjusts the slant of her crown  
 Without a claim on the snow coming down

—Bekah Taylor '00