

Smoke Damage

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how many times
have I opened the refrigerator door
to find it empty
how many times
do we walk into these rooms
full of silences
only to see a pile of clothes
hastily discarded on the floor
(and still you wanted more)

in the kitchen
the kettle calls out
time for tea and the smoke
alarm rings because the flames
have gone too high
and this time
we cannot paint over it
our decorator says
there is irreparable damage