

Fall 2019

**41.9740° N, 87.6782° W**

Cameron McGill

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CAMERON MCGILL

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41.9740° N, 87.6782° W

I'm less the buildings I used to live in  
& more the strangers passing in their windows—  
the woman dancing with her baby holding him high  
a man carrying laundry to the bedroom with a beer

I return your shadow  
to where I found it in me beside chimneys  
on Damen Avenue in an alley piling breath into January

I live in too much silence—  
there needs to be someone in the car the room the bed The world  
in its heartbreak of mastery wants me undone

To come here knowing nothing  
should want to speak except the wind & frost on the grass  
in shadows of trees on Winnemac This all starts to sound the same—  
the city the block  
my assurances The deficits they make of memory

Yesterday I met the woman I'd lived with for years  
My remembering a bath  
her knees islands in the cooling water I'm afraid  
describing things ruins them That's not true It was me  
who asked what the body wanted & didn't  
listen for the answer