Karen Klein **Canes** 

some come out easily these remnants of last year's blossoming crop

others refuse to release. tugging just tears the plant apart

some respond to a light tug releasing only a few stalks while retaining others

last year's Lobelia hung stubbornly on to its canes this year

whitened stalks litter the new leaves voluntarily letting go

one day Horsemint wouldn't give them up next day they released at a touch

Autumn Joy's hang on pulling last year's out destroys the plant's center

I'm not like Lobelia or Horsemint more like Autumn Joy

letting go of my last year's blooms deeply destabilizing now, moreover, in my life's Autumn

the next woody stick might just be the one I use for walking

#### Scroll

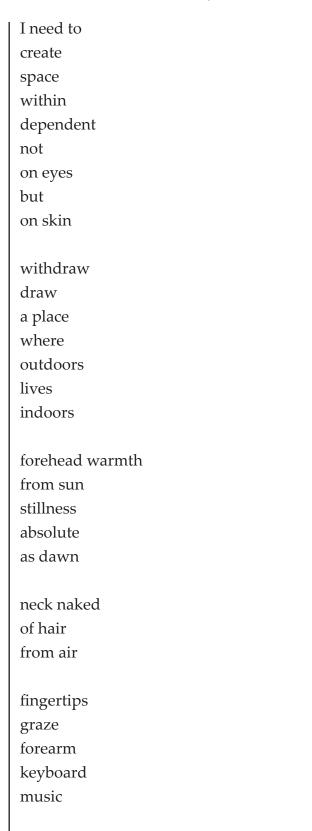
```
speaking
aloud
jaw drops
tongues touch teeth
lips close
tha na tos
I swallow death
```

I don't want to die at least not

yet

not six

I want to be minimal not doing five things everyday worrying why



#### Crazy Jane Speaks of Sex

apologies to Yeats for using his character

sex is not

an abstraction

but an activity

brutal

too brutal

not brutal enough

gentle

way way too gentle

regular

ordinary

oh, you again

endless foreplay

hurry up please it's time

languid

energetic

flaccid

I'm just not into you

sorry dear

I've a headache

hello

nice meeting you

have we met

goodbye

don't leave me

leave me alone

endless variations

permutations

limited by your

wickedly inventive

linguistic

imagination

## Footnote

I don't care
if you hate me
love me
are indifferent
just fuck me
so I can
get to sleep