

Care Package for Eva

- for Eva Saulitis, November, Southeast Alaska

All along this coast, we walk outside
this morning. The light is just right

for gathering sky, handfuls
of mist you can rub along the skin

of your back, when you feel dry. We
add a few fingers of rain

scented with spruce and hemlock
for you to sip, when you wake.

We cup in our hands the cadence
this ocean makes on these rocky

beaches. You might need
the sound of a blue mussel

at low tide, to carry you along.
Everything we have, we've borrowed

ourselves, from this world.
Still, we delight in this giving.

Still, we can think of no better way
to say we are grateful for you

for this still-wild coast,
for this one morning of light.

Wall, Emily, "Care Package for Eva" *Cirque 7*, 2 (2016): 142.