nothing left to say

Roberta Beary
Cover: Hexagram 63 Completion
The transition from confusion to order is completed, and everything is in its proper place. After a long and difficult period, it is finally time to rest and remain quiet.

The I Ching

dedicated to

Nina and Nathan
the circle
is unbroken

nothing left to say

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nothing left to say
an empty nest
fills with snow
breakup—
my daughter's voice cracks
across two continents

blue moon
dad's phone message
unslurred

third blizzard—
the untuned piano's
middle c

blackout—
my son speaks a secret
i always knew

snowed in
the dog clicks
from room to room
just after midnight
he corrects
her auld lang syne

so much silence
on a path
lit by fireflies

... talking divorce
... he pours his coffee
... then mine

rivermoon
we run
out of words

... last train
a can rolls the length
of the quiet car

... quiet rain
... the deeper quiet
of uncut roses
piano practice
in the room above me
my father shouting

talk of war
the spin cycle's
steady hum

snowbound
reading out loud
to an empty room

culling figs
mother and son
speaking again

not hearing it
till the cat stirs
birdsong
hunger moon—
the words
i meant to say

flurries
telling her headstone
he cheated

blind date—
the jangle
of handcuffs

filling the concert hall the smoker's cough

winter dusk
when dad
would phone

rainy season
again he tells me
she means nothing
daylilies burst—
the crack
in mother's voice

mother's day
she tells me everyone
already called

the sound of the name
i used to have
soft-falling snow

piano practice
losing my place
to the roses

slow-falling snow
his answering machine
again
in and out
of the lovers' quarrel
fireflies

rambling phonecall
i count the drinks
in her voice

talking in bed
i forget his name . . .
second husband

fireworks glow
in the eyes of the baby
held up to the sky

his reasons—
after each one
the faucet drip
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Previous Books by Roberta Beary

Fish in Love (coeditor) (Haiku Society of America, 2006)
The Unworn Necklace (Snapshot Press, 2007)
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This series is dedicated to
Sinforosa Verrucci (1900–1988)

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