

HEATING  
THE  
OUTDOORS

MARIE - ANDRÉE GILL

*Translated by Kristen Renee Miller*

Literature in Translation Series

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meet, work, and learn on this territory.

*I don't know if tomorrow will keep me whole  
I say the hope of letting yourself be  
Holds off despair*

—Joséphine Bacon

**LIKE NOTHING EVER HAPPENED**

The way you blow a kiss  
kept in your palm  
I blow words  
with a stale hope in the pit of my throat  
a last drink of milk  
before it expires

A caress without purpose, a splicing of limbs, a dust kitten on  
the floor, a room closed off in fall, a scab torn off, regrown.

I lay my remains on the stove, and my birds hide themselves  
away to die.

Love is a virgin forest  
then a clearcut  
in the next line