

Emily As A Kind Of Victory

By Darren Demaree

Nobody roots for the retaining wall,
unless you know first-hand what
the flood will do. Emily has stood

between me and the crashing tides
I was born with for years now
& though I don't know I would

drown without her, I know that
I would have to learn to swim
through a world's worth of whiskey

bottles. I am apt to swim through
anything, but she allows me to walk
like a man who could be quite strong.

Emily As What I Say About Sunlight

By Darren Demaree

This time
I am encased
in light

unimagined
through her
many lenses

& I must say
I prefer
the field

with Emily
laying down
as opposed

to in the sky.
That sun, our
sun, is distant.

Emily As We Cooked The Oatmeal Too Quickly

By Darren Demaree

We invented the stage
& what we were working with

& that mess was enough
for us to build a life together.

Darren Demaree bio: My poems have appeared, or are scheduled to appear in numerous magazines/journals, including the South Dakota Review, Meridian, The Louisville Review, Diagram, and the Colorado Review. I am the author of "As We Refer To Our Bodies" (2013, 8th House), "Temporary Champions" (2014, Main Street Rag), "The Pony Governor" (2015, After the Pause Press), and "Not For Art Nor Prayer" (2015, 8th House). I am the Managing Editor of the Best of the Net Anthology. I am currently living and writing in Columbus, Ohio with my wife and children.