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## About Halfway Down the Page

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*Michelle Boisseau*

## About Halfway Down the Page

I climbed out of the passage and turned  
to see the way I'd come, the disarming  
opening where I'd put my stuff down  
as if to hunt for keys but finding the door  
ajar and haloed like a cloud, now the junction  
that befuddled me with all those signs  
vying like tour operators, but soon  
I was in the straightaway and swept along

though urged to dawdle. What was it  
that glinted from the back of a stall?  
What brushed against my hip  
like sifted flour? All places are haunted  
for those who are paying attention.

Go ahead and brag when the time comes  
you'll stare death in the face and fight.  
Be the banner of seaweed that flaps  
from the flattened battlement of sand.  
As for me, let me tip like a dipper.  
The tide comes in leaping over itself  
then slides back, stepping from its clothes.