Commute

(originally published in *Tract / Trace*, online journal, March 2015)

A single bud of baby's breath

Punctuating the terrain Of hairline, corn starched

And naturally-derived-aloe toned

Face

Thank God The zit I popped This morning stopped Bleeding down my forehead

I'm like a good-looking restaurant Pioneering on the corner of A dangerous neighborhood now serving Rustic fare to brave settlers there

All jogging up the stairs Rosemary and mint scented hair, wet With preparation for open floor plans, shifting desks

Eagerly rushing in to sit

To give the next great pitch Selling clarity in object choice Selling the sell as a verb and Jocking vocal exercise

All nice white noise in waves Filtered as if it were water, blank As if the residue of exchange

Weren't an industry itself Of trauma or Xanax or 5-HTP I'm waiting with a sail folded

Assuming mast's stature bent And leaning might justify sculptural decision To remit responsibility And coast on to next bay In my time in transit, seated I gaze at matching folding seats Iron on letters body pairings Posed in line for photo-op, freeze family Not daring to ask me to trigger-

I'm not anti-futurity but you seem anti-present This train car turned caravan This day a teeming piñata waiting harmless crack

The balloons have nets and They can stand the street Your chair a rip-stop nylon Made military grade, waterproof

We talk about power outages
How inconvenient to land
On the eve of Thanksgiving
A brown out and
Cannot speak his name
With hourly looping playback
Of Sheryl in Paramus
Cutting mirepoix by candle light

The effect of onions garnering tears Masked and discounted through the flames Of holiday spice candle wafting As she chops

I'm lighting a candle too White, soy, whatever I Read is toxin free and do Some hokey Google witchcraft

Sometimes I catch sentiment floating in the air Like something the CDC flings And maybe I like to be flooded Contagious and infected by crowds