

## Westward

On 26<sup>th</sup> Street,  
a brief walk to the beach  
known as West Oakland,  
the dust of once-tall buildings  
lines the shore with coarse sand  
you can see the tide of gentrified blocks

*rising,*

*rising*

prices floating over a sea  
of San Francisco refugees  
of Uber and Google employees  
of transplants by any other name

In Emeryville,  
sidewalks you could eat from,  
polished just once a month  
but on 26<sup>th</sup> Street—two chances  
at a parking ticket every week  
streetsweepers never seem  
to clean anything but pockets

pocket of neighborhoods

paying rent against cliffs

eroded by expensive waterlines

trying not to drown

*can you bear the crash,*

*waves coming*

*up Adeline?*