BATTLEFIELD RHAPSODY

History is a distant predicament. The throwing arm

collapses around a song and the song explodes.

A battle is a resuming melody. A grenade of compressed

vowels. Ahistorical consonants.

The throwing arm sings and collapses. The song

distributes distance.

MEMORY RHAPSODY

In which you lean back—there where your skull fits into the groove

of the pillow. Mind on the sill of sleep.

From which a thorough resemblance falls backward

through the window. Dashed on the street.

Memory turns, hears the impact, goes back to sleep.

In which waking is a kind of ulterior motive,

by memory injured.

Memory's ragged,

imbalanced creeping, its shallow

unbathed scent.

Memory smells itself

from here. And to there in falling, follows.