**Kingdoms We Destroyed**

Claire Rain

philharmonic stretches of muscle—

the violence beneath your breath,

all too human, this side of death.

realms unbeknownst to me—

somewhere between sin and bliss,

ribbons of filth and darkness—

here, caught living between two earths—

I never wanted summer to end

a supple bullet, deep maroon

perfect size for a bite—

thunder clapping rhythms of helpless

arrest— brought below bruised knees,

absolutely shameless.

*eventually, you must return to the kingdoms you once destroyed.*