

Wings

They sprout from beneath my shoulder blades
Exploding out of my skin
Unfurling inky black feathers reflect
No light
They absorb it all and give no hint back
No gleam or shine
Pure coal, pure obsidian
These are the wings of a fallen angel
Beauty in pain, let me soar
A powerful downbeat and I am airborne
With every flap of these dark wings I rise up
Farther from this life
Carry me forever
Only here can I breathe
If you give me wings
 Let them be black

Imagination

Once long ago I glimpsed her
Out of the corner of my eye.
I never got a good look

Only the muffled flap of leathery wings
And a razor sharp smile.
I thought I saw rivulets of blood
 Dripping down her chin,
But she only licked her lips
And slipped away.

Gingersnaps

Nothing compares
First roll the sticky sharp dough
Coating it in sugar
A layer of sweetness before the spices take over

Then arrange them on a tray, slide your cookies into the oven
Gently now
Make sure to let your little sister help
Even if you don't need it

The two of us at the table
Situated happily with bowls of milk
Perfect for immersing the real treasure
Chewy, scalding, gingery hot
Straight out of the oven

This recipe says Ginger Snaps
But it's more than that, more than the sum
Of its parts
Egg, sugar, flour, molasses, butter, spices.
So simple.
Together, they become something tantalizing
The promise of time spent together

Even if they're only cookies,
Nothing compares to the expression on her face
Lit up, glowing, we fit together.
For now.

Winter Tribute

falling snow;
you dance around me
 (never again)
and still I cry

meaning becomes you
innocence turns cold
 (warmth goodbye)
darkness hello,

i shall ask once more
am i too young to change, if
 (suddenly) mistakes pile up
until the world is smothered,

but though I ache inside
without you
 (i taste my tears)
their salty burn

dripping onto snow.

Black Velvet

When darkness falls I can open my eyes,
See without the haze of false light
Clouding my vision
The night tumbles down over me
Smothering my hopes
I lift my arms in welcome
There is no moon tonight
Tonight, tonight belongs to the dark
There is no opposition, take what you please
Take it all
There is no beauty in sunshine anymore
No subtleties in moonlight
I've turned my face away and it's too late
Only darkness holds my gaze
Poured in ink, wrapped in silk
I surrender to the night
Nothing as sweet as this