**Little Wing**

Point Pelee is home to three hundred and seventy species of birds

I will learn their names

pause my life hover like a shiny black cormorant (double crested)

a surveyor of new terrain—

You marched on ahead of me

studying the facts

—focused on your personal geography

astounded to be standing at the same latitude as San Francisco

I hobbled behind — burning my feet on the sand

holding our child

my flipflop broken after flailing into Lake Erie to rescue him

he waded beyond the hazard sign and almost tumbled off

the edge of the earth

That is what it felt like. Standing on the rim looking out —

I could have lost him

I had already lost you