

## Meridian

## Shearwater

In the burning days  
Of unnatural light  
I took a long drive  
Into the evening

On the barracks road  
past the generals' eyes  
down to the seawall  
where the waves stand by

The enormous lull  
then the roar in the sky  
and then the searchlights  
over the airfield

And over the ocean  
winging low  
I saw the first wave  
and the flares that fall  
like fireflies  
on the islands

In the boom and swell  
from the waves to the heights  
reverberations  
of our old lives

Like a golden bell  
that would ring through the night  
and then the front moves  
and we raise our eyes  
in the silence of the islands