

Aboard the Clipper

Aboard the Clipper, headed north,
Zeppelin passing.

Three pink paper peace doves
on the window sill.

Skyline

Skyline, and on the other side,
island hills front the mountains.

Sun's glare on the water,
a crystalline blur.

The City Behind

The city fades from view,
disappears, in a blue bank
of distance.

Until even distance
disappears.

Rumble of Motors

Rumble of motors,
smooth crossing.

City to city,
country to country,
sound, without opinion.

Woman in Wheelchair

Woman in wheelchair
rolls around the table,
drapes a scarf
around
her father's neck.

Then jockeys back
to her own
side.

Steward

Steward,
behind the counter,
says she wants to spike
another worker's
drink.

Sabotage,
another says.

Something safe,
she replies.

A Small Boy

A small boy
runs the aisle,
in pajamas,
barefoot.

His mother
walks quickly,
solemnly,
behind.

Her arms
crossed
at the waist.

Exit Sign

EXIT

The small sign,
barely bigger
than its letters.

Above
the round window
on the back deck's
door.

Shut and locked,
during the crossing.

On the Crowded Table

On the crowded table,
an open deck of cards.

A complicated novel,
a book of drawing paper.

A swift game
of solitaire,
among the four.

Two Women

Two women,
lying prone.

Spy each other,
under the table.

Passing notes,
with their eyes.

Sunglasses

Sunglasses
on the table.

Shading
a napkin
from the bright
sun's light.

Man Reading

Man squints,
reading
a newspaper.

His glasses resting
on top of his head.

His bristly soul patch
points at the headlines.

Empty Plastic Cup

Empty plastic cup,
a cone
of translucent lines.

Dividing outside
from in.

Inside
from out.

Preferring
neither.

Approaching Port

Approaching port,
last chance
for duty-free.

Folding umbrellas,
long sleeve t-shirts.

Pictures
of otters
and whales.

Red Alarm Bell

Red alarm bell
on the wall.

Worker,
collecting trash.

Epaulets,
on a white
shirt's shoulder.

Signs of authority.

The Crowded Welcome

The crowded line
snakes
into
the baggage area.

Noises,
on the other side
of the wall,
conjure a prison camp.

Nothing
but friendly hellos
and
Welcome to Canada.