

Making Arrangements

Kayla McVeigh

You can take my body and have it bound in strips of linen
You can dye the strips with turmeric or beet juice
Do this so it will be vibrant and uplifting
Allow the color to invite you to sit with me
To whisper what you can barely speak

and then

I'd like to take rest in the earth
To retire my bones in soil
To be composted down
You know for me there would be no greater ceremony
Do this to help return what I have borrowed in this life
Allow me to spark life like whale fall
Know better than to think these wishes speak against my contentment with life
You know my joy in all phases
You know my being present is what moves me to make these arrangements
To be here, but taking note of each rotation around the sun
See every stage as intentional
Shouldn't this include our most transparent surprise
The flesh of my body and feelings of my experiences are temporary
But my continuation will be endless