

LAUREL SNYDER

Logos

1.

And this earth was once
Confused and tangled
And darkness.

And God called to the light,
Day? And to the dark
He called, *Night?*

And suddenly, he saw giant
God-shapes making fingers
Through the murk.

And God called
To the fingers and to
The things they felt.

And in the white room
A man watches his hands
Beat and bruise a thing.

And he relents and breathes
Into the white room, and sees
That the thing is now just that.

And so he calls to the thing
And the moment and the air
Hovering in the room. *Thing!*

And then he calls clearly
And flatly: *Time of Death: 12:32*
He calls to the time.

And elsewhere, *Our Father who art—*
You good-for-nothin-slut—
I think we'll call you Emma—

And elsewhere, *My love—*
My body which will be given up for you—
My name is X and I'm an alcoholic—

2.
Nobody can say *word*
Is not the nature
of saying. *What we are.*