

## Rain

Why does rain in the movies always mean sadness?  
Why does rain imply sex in the novels of Yukio Mishima  
as my boarding school English teacher once informed us?  
Why does the rain sound like stampeding baby feet  
on my cottage roof as I sit down to write morning pages?  
Why do I not have the words for rain the way Eskimos  
do for snow: do we not have twenty-seven kinds of sadness?  
I've seen the rain thin into harp strings. I've seen it thicken  
with the vengeance of bullets that dissolve into puddles.  
No one should decide what the rain means in the novels  
of Yukio Mishima but the lovers themselves, plotting  
their lives under an umbrella as loud as a typewriter  
clackety-clacketying with the downpour of news.  
Whenever they chose, they can drink from the sky.

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