

Austen Rosenfeld:

Austen Rosenfeld is a poet and freelance writer from Los Angeles who works at a literary agency and lives in Brooklyn.

Codicil

I've been
banished
from the
kingdom
of the living.
I see them
walking their dogs
and expressing
themselves
to people they
love. I want
in like everybody
else. At least
lend me
a book about it,
trade me your
dinner plans,
your moon
like a
breathing hole
in the black box
of night.
I promise
to give it all
back. I'm tired
of deciding
which side
not to be on.
Remember
our cat in
California.
The way
she wandered
in and out
of the house
however

she pleased.
She swam
between those
two worlds
seamlessly.
Not like
one was some
sacrifice
for the other.
There are tens
of billions
of habitable
worlds out
there. Who
are they
waiting for
if not us.