

## Contributors

Jack Shelton Boyle  
Amy Breedon  
Marybeth Cipelinski  
Stephanie Czekalinski  
Darren C. Demaree  
Marlia Fontaine-Weisse  
Kori Frazier Morgan  
David Giffels  
Michael Goroff  
Will Greenway  
Shurice Gross  
James Hain  
Jen Hirt  
Aaron Hubbard

Christina Jones  
Nathan Kemp  
Katie Mertz  
Alexis Pope  
Amy Creelman Purcell  
Nicholas Reali  
Eleanor Shorey  
Dawson Steeber  
Sommer Tolan  
Drew Wade  
Lori Wald Compton  
Joe Walton  
Elizabeth Warren  
Jessica Dawn Zinz

## Interviews

Dan Auerbach  
Josh Rolnick



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JEN HIRT

## Tough Stain

A tea stain can be removed, I've heard, by pouring boiling water from three feet up. This is how rivers begin, with a sound like infamy, like bantam waves in a backyard canal. I am not safe for fabrics. I am bathing with your stain of coal frost and dawn. I'm buying it tickets to the ocean, where the boiling water cools. What is my iris if not the sorrel stain of conception? Pour three waters, boiling feet up? Force and heat make a stain change its mind. We've always been too clean. I wish I could tip your fevered rain from the best balcony through the toughest stain of the century.