

Contents

Foreword *Yusef Komunyakaa* xiv

I

The Trouble with Stories: Indian Brothel Raid 3

The Sweaty Tribe 5

Revised *Lonely Planet Guide to Holy Men* 7

Patchwork Quilt for a Congolese Refugee 9

Trigger Fields 11

Quarantine Dreams 15

Getting the Story Just Right 19

Calla Lily, Condom 23

Western Psychonauts of the Postpartum Period 25

Refugee Christmas Eve 29

While Teaching Anthropology Class, I Think of Indra's Net,
My Mother, and Try to Redefine ADHD 31

Ethnography of Horror, Domesticated 35

One Life to Live 39
Stale Refugee 41
What Counts as Trauma 43
Trauma, Inc. 45
The Day I Really Became an Anthropologist 49
Skull Tree Stories 51
Speaking in Tongues: Kickboxers 53
The Fat Claw of My Heart 55
NGO Elegy 57
Those Days We Played God 59
Home of Confident Children Out of Conflict (CCC) 61

II

On the Brilliance of Your Story 65
I Watch My Daughter Snort Google 67
Bhutan: East Wants West Wants East 69
Psychocolonialism 71
The Trauma Mantras 73
Tulip Fever 75
Field Notes: Nursing Home Fieldwork with Students 77
Himalayan Facebook Fiction 79
Prostrations 81
Love Poem to America, Quarantined 83
What Makes Us (Not) Buddhists 85

Anthropology of American Yoga: The Dalai Lama Looks Down
on a Yoga Class 87

Monsoon Clouds 89

American Bardo 91

Refugee Encounters with Feelings of a Capitalist Kind 93

Happiness 95

American Skateboarders 97

Breathe with Me Barbie 99

Jésus, Immaculée, and the Pig 101

Instructions for Doing Fieldwork: Tracking American Buddhists
for Interviews at the Stupa 103

Between Waking and Sleeping, I Look Outside as It Snows, Think
about the Blunt Tool of the English Language 105

Crossing the Great Divide 107

This Is What Sorrow Looks Like 109

Ringtone Trauma 111

Mushrooms, Jungle, Yoga 113

The Choice 115

COVID Subnivean 117

Don't Let Anyone Tell You Anything Is Separate in This World 119

Aborted Ethnographic Fieldwork: Nonparticipant Observation 121

War McMetaphors 123

Technotropic 125 Mating

Knot 127

Humpty Dumpty Had a Great Fall 129

Coming Home, I Dig around My Pharmaceutical Bag 133 The
Careful Preservation of Child Atoms 135

Cybirds 137

Mismatch Theory: A Message from a More Mindful America 139

The Human TechnoBody Meets Quarantine 141

Our Evolution Cannot Be Digitized 143

A Brief Respite from the Usual Perceptual Divides: After Chemo I Ski
through the Vermont Woods in Another Climate Change Storm 145

Last Week, Tied to My Intravenous Pole 147 The

Trouble with Anthropocene Grammar 149

Hush, Humans 151

Fontanelegy 153

Acknowledgments 155