

ROBIN LYSNE

Hovercraft

for *Kisti* (1944–2009)

My sister picks me up from
the Brownsville airport
in her new VW Bug,
lime-green glitter
with violet running lights.

I throw my bag behind the seat
and get in.

As we lug, I say,
You've got a new car!
She grins, raises an eyebrow, then says,
Looks a little ethereal,
don't you think?

I am not amused,
not ready to hear of her reality.
Instead I squeeze her hand,
shake my head, and finally acquiesce,
I suppose.

After listing the places
she wants to take me—
the art gallery,
her studio,
the secondhand store
that sells clothes by the pound—

she adds,
*Oh, and my chemo drip
is the last day you are here.*
I hope you don't mind.

I place my hand on hers
that rests on her knee
and say, *Of course not,*
that's what I am here for, I'll take you.

Good, she says, as she starts the Bug,
then flips a switch on the dash
to make the lights vibrate
as we drive,

*I want you to bless
the cocktail.*

Robin Lysne is the author of seven books, including two books of poetry, with two manuscripts in the wings. Lysne's work has been published in *North American Review*, *Samizdat*, the *Sand Canyon Review*, *Porter Gulch Review*, and many other publications. As an artist, author, and energy medicine practitioner, through her daily work with transformation Lysne leads her clients and herself into joy many times a day.

SUSAN MOORE

Faccia 1, 2020
Mixed media, 19 x 19 in



COURTESY THE ARTIST