

GAIL WRONSKY

The Avocado Tree's Rebirth

A mockingbird surveys the living room. I dream the butterflyflied leaves asleep. Let the tender-eyed sky whose air I breathe efface the terrace where I write.

The height of the born-again tree renews my reverie. How still it is, this cave of green, of the purified wind admired.

I know that a fiery creek bed will be my undoing. That, and the lie of a harp my tools require. And the words, the words, the soil, the hollow billowing of hope that is hoisted like a pirate's flag above this enchanted shipwreck.

Gail Wronsky is the author of five books of poems, including *Dying for Beauty* (Copper Canyon) and *Poems for Infidels* (Red Hen). She has published poems in many literary journals, including *Catamaran Literary Reader*, *Poetry*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Boston Review*, *Volt*, and *Colorado Review*. She teaches creative writing at Loyola Marymount University.

LISA HOCHSTEIN

Still Time #1, 2015
Mixed-media collage, 7.75 x 5.75 in

