

IN THE HOLLOW OF THE WAVE

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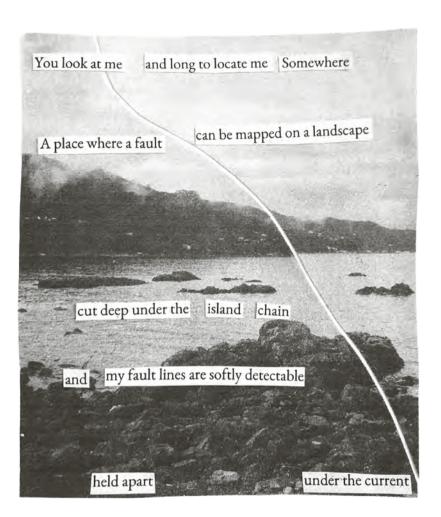
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Slipstitch

Can memory be unhoused or is it the form in which everything is held? – Victoria Chang, Dear Memory

humidity

My mother won't look inside her old piano. The keys have softened and won't play. She thinks something

might be growing inside, the wood now warped

and damp. Everything is porous here. My old memories are full of holes. New ones float up to the surface, sticky and ready to be shaped. I can hear the cousins' chatter about heat lamps, humidity, the local piano man. I step into the path of the electric fan and part of my body becomes air. Boxes of her records around my feet, booklets of sheet music with frayed corners where she turned the pages again and again.