

confluence

a stranger
shared their obsession
following rivers
from their origins
to their embouchures

the river where i walk
was cut through push and quake

its tributary waters
gather and surrender
into the Columbia

sitting across from you
drinking coffee
i'm looking at your mouth

subduction
a slow crush and rumble
folds magma into mountains

valley water
traces the thalweg

surging
when you almost
touch my hand