

KELSEY TAYLOR
HONORABLE MENTION

You can have it all

You can be a mother and a lover, you can be them at the same time. You can build a house, you can leave a house, you can be your daughter's mother and hate your son's father, but not at the same time. You can run from urban sprawl, you can run, you can chase the frontier, you can be country, you can be city, but not at the same time. You can wince at the cracks in your lip, in your lovers, you can irrigate, you can dip your fingers in the ocean, holy ocean, holy water. You can watch the water lap the shore from your window, or the kitchen, or the bedroom, but not at the same time. You can make a floor plan, you can change your life plan, have a new plan, but not at the same time. You can frame a roof in redwood, polished redwood, but it'll blister in the sun and you can build a room with glass, walls of glass, but they'll dry out like salted cod. You can hide in foothills, you can be a landmark, you can raise a family, you can raze a house, you can build a house, a house, a house, you can make your bed, be a homemaker, or leave it be a love-maker, you can sleep in bedrooms, not at the same time. You can leave a bed to steep the tea, you can pour the tea, pour the concrete. You can divide your lovers, your life, your spaces with shōji, you can draw doors, draw windows, open doors, close doors, but not at the same time. You can wish him dry, you can gaze upon him with starry eyes, but not at the same time. You can nurture, you can share skin, you can be kin, but you can't love two at the same time.