

Danielle Vogel

Drifts

Drift two—

perfect curtains of algae
almost as one —
and the phytoplankton rise
oxygen levels , a radiance
in the Sound's center trough
up and out toward the shoals
atmosphere , estuary - -
confluent tides—
this upwelling :
of organisms , of winds and waters
drifts of nourishing darkness , light , salt—
hydrogen—and with this /
exchange

Drift three—

tidal resonance /
in the sea floor
above the sea floor
now under the tide
watershed and upswell

of marsh and beach edge ,
of tidal forests , mangrove
swamps
- - expansions
to be of moraines
and sills
little necks - - cherry
stones, of osprey
porcupine and river otter
whelks
urchin ,
to be of mudflat fox
of periwinkle ,
and the winter skate's purse - -

to work this good darkness
into the shallows
this vital brackish water
resuscitation
of every coastal stream

Drift four—

to be dwellers *with* this land - -

to be of source to sea