

Nose
Mind
Heart
Lungs
Heart minds
Mind lungs
Lungs nose

I always thought it was fascinating
How smell is the strongest sense tied to memory
Every corner of the past cupped with a clue
A hint of cardamom, vanilla, melting rubber
Each whiff, a hallway I forgot I walked

The body loves to breathe nostalgia
Remind me this once meant something like
Dinner with a house full of siblings
Walking in the sweater of someone I loved
Memory drags behind me, warm and frayed
And faint

Nose knows it's my worst sense
Knows there is nowhere for me to go
So I trade smelling for smiling
Buy bites of half-lived experience
Reheat what my memory left behind
Call it dinner
Call myself full

Heart minds
Knows what it's missing
Salt on the rim of a glass half empty
Sweet where it shouldn't be
I can taste where this went sour

Mind lungs
Lunges into future past
Forgets what the heart minds
Makes a feast out of aspirin and ambition
And still

Sighs at the scent of wet asphalt

My father knows the trade
He offers me a slice of steak, rare
I return potato, too sweet
What's his is mine
What's mine is indebted

Nose
Mind
Heart
Lungs
All full
I am still
So hungry