

Love Poem
by Christina Hedding

I.

Before me lies a sea
of amethyst sheets
and cardboard dinners
briny with the past.

I want to

taste your ocean
on my lips as I kiss
away the tide
of black and blue.

In the beginning

ecstasy is limitless like
the navy waves that
crash against my chest.

My heart stirs: alive.

II.

I gave you my heart,
a shiny new penny.

I watched you

eat, savor, and spit
it out. On the floor
it looked like

amber-gris scraped
from the gullet

of a decaying whale,
a yellow bubbling mush.

I scoop it with fragile hands
and heave it back into
my chest. It promises
to work better next time.