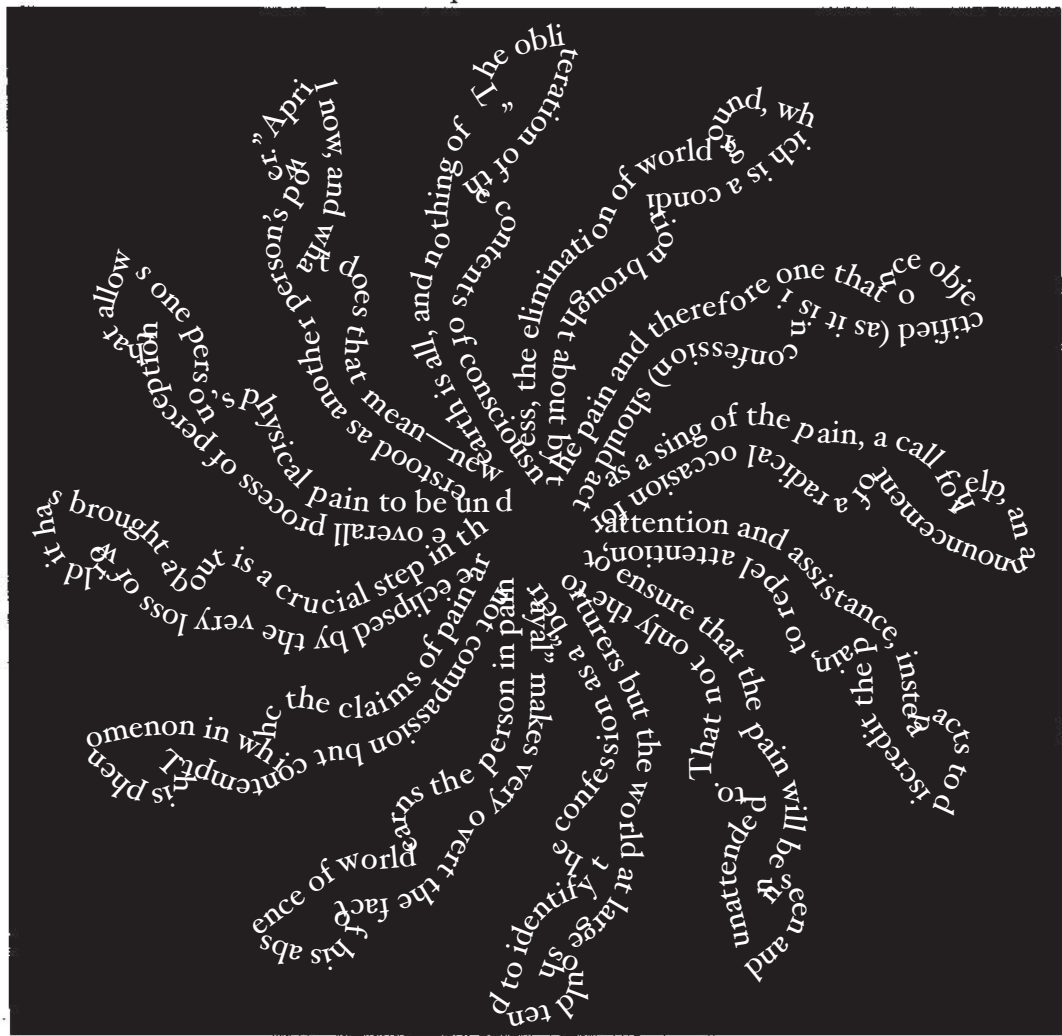


~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

I am Yasser Talal Al-Zahrani, my name is Rachel,  
I was discovered at 12:39, they attached wires to my toes,  
they say they will rape me, there was a camera there, I am I  
  
did not want my name to be transmitted, I am Joan of Arc,  
later they cut out my throat, they catalog my image,  
my shame, they archive it, I am proof of the epic.

Waterboard Technique ..... 44





~~TOP SECRET~~ as when time slows—dilates—

and the sum of you  
fills that long syllable, because even the person,

Enhanced Techniques

that obsolete rose,  
is capable of that, of experiencing  
death; or nothing like that, like the absolute  
helplessness of locked-in syndrome;

like a mock ex-  
ecution; like the water board,  
when the new planet is discovered: blue  
beyond whatever water meant before,  
and you're the chosen astronaut,  
lucky, proud, exhilarated by the unique  
terror of the undiscovered world—

no, not that, instead, its radical negative:  
just the terror, a different kind  
of liquid to drown in;  
you close your eyes—how could you not—  
so sleep (when it comes, when they let you have it)  
is rewritten as trauma,  
so where in your Book of Dreams, sleep  
was the Indian Ocean, you the submarine  
underneath its million waves,  
invisible,  
gliding on your secret mission, sleep now  
is suffocating, your skin the million  
waves you're under, the million fathoms you  
cannot swim back up through,

you wake, because the person, “gold flourisher,”  
is capable of that long