

God Is God and the Universe Is the Universe

and maybe they've had enough;
and maybe the ship will finally sink
and maybe the controversy will be settled
and maybe the rendering will be palpable
and maybe the reckoning will be glorious
and maybe the divide will be bridged with glory
and maybe the flashes will be fragments
and maybe the center will not hold
and maybe the thrill of what follows will be just that: thrilling
and maybe I will see through the darkness
and maybe I will come before the remembering and see the truth
and maybe I will imagine the very heart of this moment and not feel pain
and maybe I will make a case for jealousy—that it was mine all this time
and maybe I will see my limitations as a mirror in search for a face
and maybe I will recognize the swallowing of strength
and maybe I will have intentions I didn't know I had
and maybe I will search the model I hold for splinters and cracks
and maybe my predictions were wrong
and maybe my patience didn't thin
and maybe I will have had enough
and maybe I will erase what has plagued me
and maybe the reckoning will be deafening
and maybe I will rise up
and see with these eyes that want
and these eyes that hold
and these eyes that carry
and these eyes that cast
and these eyes that glare
and maybe I will see with these eyes
that this country is good
that people are good

that people are *mostly* good
and that I knew the whole time
that I was good

Tender

I think about the word: TENDER
And its meanings
He told me I was so tender.
Tender meaning easily to bruise?
Meaning soft to the touch?
Meaning perfection to taste?
Meaning juicy,
Or close to bloody.
Tender . . .
Did he mean *tinder*?
Like when I saw him on Tinder
Like when I saw someone who *might've* been posing as him on
Tinder?
Or like what starts a fire?
The way the wood balks
The way it bleeds blue into orange into yellow
(Orange you glad I never called you out about that?)
Doesn't the wood grow warm and gentle, soft-like?
(One might say, *tender*.)
Was he saying I was quick to burn?
(Maybe he was quick to burn)
Maybe I am quick to burn
(So what?)
Tender feels so loving
All those "en" sounds like: envelope, endearment, endeavor
encircle, enclose, enchant, entwine, enthrall, engage,
end, end, end, end, end