CONTENTS

Salad Days 5
Take a Chance 6
Tuesday 7
Atonement 8
Flags 10
Survival Strategies 11
Feathers 12
With a Small Flashlight 13
Balance 14
Waves 15
Even Birds Leave the World 16
I Want to Know 18
After Decades First Love Resembles Fruit 19
Dragonflies 20
The Day a Crucial Button Fell Off My Blouse 21
Herd 22

||

Stars 27 My Cloak of Not Knowing 28 Tethers 29 Swans 30 The Money Coat 31 Recipe for Sleep 33 Swimming Brushes with Death 35 The Omnipresent Dark Curse 36 Odds 38 Lizard Blues 39 Not a Jelly Bean 41 Castelluccio 42 Ranch Time 43

Ш

Acknowledgments

Potatoes 47 Opportunity Costs 48 In the Last Storm I Tried to Write the History of Secrets 49 Slow Starting Rant 50 A Day in the Park 51 Honeymoons 52 53 **Bugs Pray** Relics 54 L'Heure bleu 55 What Light Tastes Like 56 Debt 57 My Big Dream 58 Sole 61 Even If 62 The Ancestral Spirit Chair Counsels Whoever Sits in It 63 My Daughter's Daughter 65 Notes 67

69