## Contents

Bad Words ..... 3
oneNativity7
After three weeks at the museum ..... 9
Plague's Monologue ..... 10
Retrospective Elegy for Charlotte ..... 11
Alien Birth ..... 13
My Eurydice ..... 14
Breath Was
Depression Was ..... 18
Once a Day ..... 30
two
Hello ..... 35
my life in noir films ..... 36
During the late forties ..... 37
The Cot ..... 38
My mother's parents owned the Collins Hotel . . . ..... 39
How It Was with Us ..... 40
Hunger ..... 41
I have always loved the unassuming objects of noir ..... 42
The Visit ..... 43
The War ended in 1945 ..... 45
My early poems were filmic like " B " movies ..... 48
My American Self-Portrait ..... 49
Hard-Boiled Elegy ..... 50
Photos from a Highway Hotel Room ..... 51
three
Doing the Laundry with Jade, I Remember a Train Trip . . . ..... 55
Pandemia Elegy
Day 1 ..... 57
Day 2 ..... 59
Day 3 ..... 60
On the Fourth Day ..... 61
Day 5 ..... 62
Day 6 ..... 63
Day 7 ..... 64
Eighth Day ..... 65
Day 9 ..... 66
Day 10 ..... 67
Day 11, 3:00 AM ..... 68
Day 12 ..... 69
Day 13 ..... 70
This City as Afterlife ..... 71
Four Sighs from an Epidemic ..... 72
Notes ..... 75
Acknowledgments ..... 77

