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I am asleep but my heart is open

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I am asleep but my heart is awake

I will paint in watercolors,
 I will put water on this paper
 though I think
 I should have left the message
 in the bottle where it won't get wet again.
 I might trace colors on the wall instead.
 Oh, I am not an artist, I am
 running blind
 into opaque light patches.
 I have let my silhouette catch fire!
 And I can hold my arms out like tree limbs,
 while I fold lengthwise
 and fit neatly into
 your wallet.
 I can draw my hands on yours
 so you can always hold them.
 And now I'll draw the chapel
 in my sketchbook
 so I can pray over my lunch. And maybe
 today I'll get the courage
 to ask God whether it hurts to die--
 maybe today I'll be brave enough
 to close my eyes and hope
 the world is still there when they are
 wide open.

—Aniel Olson