

sure you found all of those bobby pins?  
— you say  
She leans in to kiss you,

She smooths her hair,  
zips up her skirt, upper lip, fingertips,  
thighs, still soaking;

Number 23 (Winter)

dawn pond glittering  
through night's still-black trees;  
Wednesday again; phones don't ring

Days

for thighs, face, your lap—  
bony back arches, throat throbbing;  
cries to be touched

paws curl; tongue flicks;  
curved claws climb, retract;  
rolls over—belly up—reaching

What A Cat Does

front door, staircase—bare  
brown boards—bruised left hip,  
both knees; door closing, again

Number 8 (Spring)

*Please recycle to a friend*

ORIGAMIPOEMS.COM

origamipoems@gmail.com

Cover Art is example of Sumi-e  
supplied by the author

Origami Poetry Project™

Strokes (Mostly) in Silence

Chris Warner © 2012

warnerch2003@yahoo.com

*Note: Sumi-e is an Asian art form that  
requires intense concentration and discipline  
it is characterized by the use of negative space  
using as few brush strokes as possible  
in order to capture the true essence  
or spirit of the subject matter*

## Strokes (Mostly) in Silence



Chris Warner

With gratitude, always,  
to the beloved professor,  
Tom Daley

## Sumi-e

swirling brush, fat black strokes—  
stick, thicken, circle back;  
mostly empty space

~

the white pillow;  
palm smooths reddened cheeks;  
your other fist—her tangled wet hair