

from **THE FRESNO SERIES**

WEST & VASSAR: HOW THE SAN JOAQUIN SAVED MY LIFE

Jennifer Brown

when we show up these songs are already playing. everything is yellow and it is always in the way. some of it is broken and none of it is consequential. we leap through the house wearing a path between the inner and outer worlds. by daylight it disappears and all the objects are exhausted. the blinds are drawn over an indifferent scene. who says we weren't tired and lonely? I came to the valley during its freeze and flew down blackstone high, catching something under the human heart, that dead and dying space. I'd brought his dumb memory to the world.