

Stalk

Bush branch petal bark
pavement cracked by mint,
moss that cleaves the cracks.

Stalk as she neck, talk
as she is, a body much
as theirs. Mums mouth

words to the dirt. Fat peonies
chin the leaves, swaddle
stamens as exclamations

in their silks, spells spill
pollination, spring, twig.
Branch cracks her grasp

grammars her and they
cleave a bud, green a head,
say spill the scrawl, spring.