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Carlton Hill, November // Dream in Which Iquala is the Genesee

Evan Goldstein SUNY Geneseo

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EVAN GOLDSTEIN

Carlton Hill, November

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Still, a kind of rebellion: night as rain glassed frozen grasses. Limp hills
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of new-forested stone walls all snow lichen-dusted,

train soughing winded valley. Over dim tents you and I intone in cloudbreak—

we did not watch for constellations, but lifted coals ember light to thaw our boots

Dream in Which Iguala is the Genesee

This is something that should never have happened, and must never be repeated. —Jesús Murillo, Mexico Attorney General

They water flowers for the dead while I lay down tonight—snowmelt river water stinking in my clothes—my door

ablaze in protest. Students scream *we are not armed*—their fists against riot shields, eyes

water tear gas river south campus dark green gentle bends reflect cornfields beneath the bridge—

a desert south stars ruddy in cloud smoke thick ash on riverbank. Diesel

on water pearly, languid under tide of trash and skin. Their brown skin, blistered skin teeth that turn to dust in eddy. Hands in water, hands pressed through rifle bore—my hands are white, soft—

dripping red I have turned away from garbage pyres: 43 students shot and burned, bones thrown to water, skin—ash

gathered on this dirt as snow.