

closed anemones

her body is recumbent
on a sandy beach
her skin stretched firm
upon the frame of bone
she is an island
carved from Paros stone

her eyes
are rock pools,
each pupil fathomless and black
surrounded by brown irises
of swaying bladderwrack
where images of sky and sun
flash bright as fish
within the water's run

her rock breasts
are bleached
by tides of salt and sea
each nipple
a little closed anemone