

GOODBY YELLOW MAVERICK

the color of sun on the
maple leaves october
tulips pears and
certain cherries Your
smooth black vinyl
smells a bit of musk
cats that are living
cats that are dead
Thigh glyphs dissolve
from that dark The
next person you put
your hips around tho
may smell lilac blossom
and quince that stayed
in the window when I
ran to Vermont my
grandmother dying
cold apples I filled
the back seat with to
take to Hudson and
the rum that flooded
the floor an inch deep
it took us hours to notice

EVERYTHING STEAMING

ice starting to drip
from the black walnuts
white drifts up
wraps the house

tips of branches
icebergs float by
the grey bedroom
where last night's

wine soaks into
the floor like
blood under
the puppies

BRISBEE

A neighbor says
a quiet man
lonely always
alone nobody
came I don't
know how this
could have
happened

Arrowroot
cookies on the
floor torn
blue pillow a
twisted cloth
strangling him

alone in a house
of 12 cats
especially hungry
this morning

robbery was the apparent

5 people arrested
more people than had
ever visited him

MODEL HOME

Carpet you could
drown the sound of
someone being strangled
in Antiques glow the
toilet seats are sealed
Empty wine in a rack
No stains no dripping
on enamel the phones
match the walls and
bedspreads but no
thing is connected

-- Lyn Lifshin

Niskayuna NY