

Meet Me at the Center of the Earth
— *after Nick Cave's Soundsuits*

1.

bodies name
the sound they make

all this hullabaloo

an outstretched arm
festooned with ivy sequins

2.

bride of tessera

decor
becomes
body —

history's second-
hand

sweaters

3.

tresses shake
neon

yellow
orange
red

kin to
the abominable
fabulous

straw anemones
swish

shells flower

abounding

4.

music sewn

in rosy sequence

glass songs

tumult

our shores

5.

dance a dress
of buttons

tree of

a child
and guardian

twirl, twirling

6.

birds sing —

this head
over
my own

— ceramic songs

look out
a cat's eyes

heaven and hell

is armature

7.

your unlocked
eye

quickened

cosmos
coin

gilded blood

haute couture

8.

belles-lettres —

phantom skirt

sweeps Venetian
waves red, blue
golden water

story worn

outside

9.

starry —

hum absorbed
in skin

sky —

so much
glitter beach

10.

live glass

flowers

bottle caps

spangles

twist ties

raffia

rattles

seeds

awaking

turbulence

inside this Earth

gleaming
brocade oceans