

SAMPLER

*Scar*

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# Scar

*a poem by*

SAMPLER

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Shearsman Books

First published in the United Kingdom in 2016 by  
Shearsman Books  
50 Westons Hill Drive  
Emersons Green  
BRISTOL  
BS16 7DF

Shearsman Books Ltd Registered Office  
30–31 St. James Place, Mangotsfield, Bristol BS16 9JB  
(this address not for correspondence)

[www.shearsman.com](http://www.shearsman.com)

ISBN 978-1-84861-487-1

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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This poem was informed by the following works:  
‘Updating the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan: Using a  
vulnerability assessment to inform conservation priorities’;  
Naomi Wolff’s *This Changes Everything*;  
The White House’s ‘Fact Sheet: What Climate Change Means  
for Illinois and the Midwest,’ dated 6 May 2014;  
the Environmental Justice Climate Change report, ‘Climate of Change:  
African-Americans, Global Warming and Just Climate Policy’;  
a day with Rachel McCarthy at The Met Office;  
and conversations and interviews with Illinoisans.

Special thanks to Susie Campbell and Claire Crowther  
for their readings of, and responses to, the poem.

*i.m. Peter Reading*

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at my beginning: prairie

at my beginning: a town called Normal

on the far horizon cornfield upon cornfield splayed

flattened by tornado

stunted stalks, palest soil under a heavy sun

soybeans submerged in water

but no— not far:

today, tomorrow

so here's      The White House's "Fact Sheet:  
                         What Climate Change Means

for Illinois and the Midwest"

its list, its gist

the volume's rising:

more heat  
more pests  
more disease  
more extreme weather events:

tornado  
drought  
flood  
heat wave  
blizzard

O Illinois—



more tornadoes

one scours a half-mile-wide path through Fairdale

flattens / twists / hurls      homes / cars / a child's treehouse

its scar in the earth visible

from space

SAMPLER

(off-page I am

feline slink,

butterfly shiver,

fish glide, I am

animal amid)

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