

# salve<sup>1</sup> sealed<sup>4</sup> within<sup>5</sup> a dead<sup>6</sup> branch<sup>15</sup> of a pinyon pine<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup> processed resin<sup>2</sup> gathered on Pueblo lands from a pinyon pine<sup>16</sup>

<sup>2</sup> the tree creates resin to seal and heal its wounds,<sup>3</sup> to fight infection and harm-causing insects

<sup>3</sup> for human skin: antiseptic, anti-inflammatory, healing

<sup>4</sup> with beeswax, open when needed

<sup>5</sup> resin moves through ducts within the wood so it can flow where needed

<sup>6</sup> threats to pinyon pine:<sup>16</sup> one, dwarf mistletoe<sup>7</sup> another, pinyon die-off<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup>cause: a parasite embeds in the tree, extracting nutrients and water, and produces green aerial shoots on the tree's branches<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> treatment: if there is not significant spread, prune infected branches

<sup>9</sup> cause: a change in climate<sup>14</sup> resulting in increasing heat, droughts,<sup>10</sup> wildfire, and insects

<sup>10</sup> drought causes internal hydraulic failure,<sup>11</sup> carbon starvation,<sup>12</sup> increased susceptibility to bark beetle attacks<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> air begins to flow inside the tree, not water

<sup>12</sup> lack of water slows photosynthesis production, depleting the tree's carbon reserves

<sup>13</sup> severe stress reduces the tree's ability to produce resin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>14</sup> treatment:

<sup>15</sup> gathered from a browning<sup>10</sup> pinyon pine<sup>16</sup> on Goshute lands

<sup>16</sup> a general name used for singular trees

branch in one hand  
saw in one hand

pile growing  
on winded stones

me  
swaying branches  
till teeth fall

me, a toothed wind  
opening greyed skin  
showing sinews  
yellow and unsunned

this:  
a return

before:  
a pause

at its opened bark  
resin fallen and set

i asked,  
and gathered—  
amber stones  
from stones—  
and thanked

then life and life  
and lingering scent—

—fingers passing  
a knowing:

i took more  
than i gave<sup>14</sup>

wind  
high and open  
thrashing  
branches

my skin—hat and gloved  
—to grey furrows of skin:  
*is there something*

walked  
circling

(doubts)

walked  
circling

and saw  
what i had not seen:  
green, not its own<sup>7</sup>

this:  
a return

high and open  
a saw swaying<sup>2</sup>