

ROBERT WATSON

Morning Fisher, ND
Oil on canvas, 17½ x 25 in



COURTESY WINFIELD GALLERY

GARY THOMPSON

Lullaby of the Sea

Inside the blacked-out globe of this night
without the moon, without a hint
of stars, the sea—the Salish Sea—
is the only fact our senses trust.
Its surf, thrumming as soft as our hearts
through sleepless nights, its salts in air
so clean against the reek of debris
in the kelp and seaweed of the wrack.

This skookum night of sea everywhere—
sea in our eyes, our ears, sea in
the shapes our minds name to damp
down fear. This place where land and sea
are nearly one beneath a black dome
sky—how can this be home, our home?

Gary Thompson's fifth book, *One Thing after Another* (Turning Point Books, 2013), is a collection of six lyrical sequences. For many years, he taught in the Creative Writing program at California State University, Chico. Now he and his wife live on San Juan Island in Washington, where he spends an inordinate amount of time "simply messing about" in an old trawler named *Keats*.