

*Red is Fugitive*

In a chemical word

red is hardest to hold.

On the pigment-coated sheet

images in sun go green,

the most disturbing of the balances.

I saw a body

dead and iced. It was not blue,

but emerald.

*In extremis* the blood, too,

stops or goes off. And the flesh,

always a fitful balance,

goes grey, without light:

the red goes and the grey goes green.