

Epilogue

DO YOU LOVE ME?

ἀγαπᾷς με;
(John 21.16)

at daybreak you come up empty
still at sea
so I show you a hundred and fifty-three
ways to say it but they swim behind your
back and you don't see them you're
leaning over the other side of the
nave trying to make out the spot where
you nearly sank
that time when you thought
too hard about sinking

later, when the bones lie on the sand
we watch the coals sink, and
I ask you again

and now as the sun catches your
hair almost dry I know your
answer is almost yes and I say
you know you will be
me one day?