

## Rachel Plummer

### Wide As the Ocean Is

I love you as the North Sea loves a boat  
when bearing it high up onto the shore,  
or as a piece of driftwood loves to float  
in with the tide to Gullane. I adore  
you as the Firth of Forth adores the train,  
its track, the bridge it crosses over and  
the bridge's black reflection in the rain  
bloated river. I love you like the land  
can't help loving the coast and breaks itself  
apart to let the ocean in, and like  
a dizzy, new-formed cyclone loves the Gulf  
Stream; like storm water loves a lightning strike.  
I love you as a drowned man loves the sea;  
I am the boat that begs you shipwreck me.

Note: *'Gullane' is pronounced 'Gullen'.*