

On reading

when reading
I search for meaning
between the words
in the spaces at ends of chapters
somewhere in the index
when reading,
even in fiction I search
for 'how to'
how to live more fully
how to bite into an autumn fruit
when reading
a book of tanka
I'm surprised
at how many ways there are
to say "I'm lonely"
reading on the deck
my list of 'things to do'
as a book mark

-Naomi Wakan