from

# L TRAVELS

Elisabeth Frost

Dear L,

your goneness

acrid decree

to leave me this

thought

what if

loss

had been

our vow

Sincerely

Chichén Itzá

#### Machu Picchu

reluctant

begrudging

green

halts

leavings

off

foot holds

dwelless

ruin

from this base

call

camera

rock

relinquished

even rhythm

bit by bit

point

rise

giving in

postcards

in/as

charity

tense past

il legible

marble remains

regimental crystal

insignia bits

see a map

unscroll

gold laments

a fray

elegant gainst

tidings

bayonet

at the border

lucky I thus the loose as window passing pastel founts this/that Madonna pink Maremma marble \* favored be by currency

afford such passage as

taxi meter's soundless measure

this time

this time

this

#### luckless

Ι minus L

missing

words

these meaning

snaky metallic

the self's

own pipes

the rest

never equal

re place

hydrangea arrive

a table monsieur

croque langue d'oc

madame non perfume

pate patter

sans company

terrace y

on attend

sauvignon ça

impatient swallows la

lavende acqua

bright pink mer

Dearest L,

## thought

today

love, my

limb, missed

language, your

left, me

lucky, you

#### A THEORY OF THE VOWEL

				by L	
	establish		first		
vowels					
	do not		travel		
well					
		long	or	short	
			ë	é	è
	ö	ü	even i		
& these					
		are only		the We	estern

ones

#### I L

holding my

## Montepulciano

a-forth

a mano!

a Milano!

ever to make

great the bastard American diphthong shout pout

pound

Dearest L

thought today

of grief

open long

a mouth

a vowel

meanwhile dates &

green wax stain on the kitchen table

like before

## walking

not

## finding

unico

count

senso

after

whose

sun down

red dress

red

## geraniums

another

#### red shirt

segnora

### the same

block

senso

wrong
unico

rep

written

senso

0

repeat

in

#### stone

of

one

today

not

by

red

L,

Consider

heat wave	west Nile	
dead pigeons	prone	
drought rain	still/despite	
rumors	our wars	
hawks	hovers	

thus thus this day

dear --- click day love gorgeous for too up night come medieval bed went tomorrow on !! can weather yummy go incredible you if back hope xoL Dear L,

1 / 1 /	•
how/what	you miss

cactus of

no-prick leaves

Christmas (so called)

soft magenta buds!

little swarm of

contagion of

slow

this

opening

	noche
who likes	
	dizzy
L	
	chance of
edges	
	wall perch
cypress tops	
	carry
voices	
	whose wine
vowels	
	line of
red & white	
	red & white
moving cars	
	the hour

noontime ritual

keyed lock

metalbox

yield from surge

of glossy

catalogue

lodged low with bills

public name

below windowed

cellophane

a private word!

How can

says L

say all? to stay!

delaydelay

L reluctant

One last I swear!

O selfish L

to test

a way word

vow

great wall

### if not parapet

#### scaled

### who doesn't long

for

(fine cries or wails

go down)

though patch work

up close

is bare

branch

thistle

swoon

& you're

all

over

L,

Consider:

the leftthe leaverthe pronethe loosedafloatafield

opposeds:

posture of loyalty

of dissent

but L

one becomes

the other

#### TRAIN SONG

by L

L, careless L! (turn off the cell!)

unjust farness

little moon can you do

or take this a way

be mean to me

grown accustomed till you hear from

Der nächste Zug fährt Richtung Wien

dear ---

can self

miss self

out of season

blue-black iris

déjà vu

but

to miss one-self in one's own present tense?

surprise surprise

(surprising L) I do

that is

miss me

scrim of leaf bits

brings them back

yellow stamens

thick stems

stuck

in home's water murk

the one good

cut-glass vase

oak breakfront

whose stain

always seemed

dull dark

suspended

AN HONEST REPLY

Regret inform request letter impossible.

Rest careful resources respond. You of pardon we impersonality better. Any cause convenience. Deserve. Appreciate. Together.

Once thank choose needs. Are. There. For.

Sincerest

#### AMIDST

by L

mirror the months-old pilgrimage maudlin nomad mournful Marrakech Macau Madrid macadam jam custom time numbing mundane melee measly midwest metropolis Minneapolis Madison Map's Fold Missouri if home

si	change
VOW	hoy

break dustfront deadhusk

\*

\*

fine time fine

airs

of theres

of home bland immerse

count

cunning

little

coins

little

clues

in retro spec