

Lot's wife

by [Nancy Lee Perry](#) in the [June 24, 2015](#) issue

Where else could she look, but back?  
Though not in mourning, as some have told it,  
Counting milestones, naming joys. Or even from a lack  
Of obedience, as if she had called out, "Hold it.  
I am Lot's wife, that must count for something."  
Maybe once she would have staked her life on such a claim,  
But now she's heard the bargaining  
And wonders how she missed it all these years. Nameless  
This grief that overtakes her and slows her swift  
Legs to a halt. She is Lot's wife, no more than chattel  
To do with as the need arises and he sees fit.  
Humbled, she turns around, away from that.

A pillar of salt! It doesn't surprise her,  
This slow dissolving into tears.