

# RORY HARRIS

second born

\*

you clutch

sheets to

your mouth

& wait

for birth

to uncurl

from inside

of you

this carrying

has gone on forever

\*

the old toys

& entertainments

will be used

again, along

with stored

wool jumpers

doll sized

the first

born, will

learn to share

\*

each twig

bent into

place, each

coat of paint

each hand

washed blanket

nest building

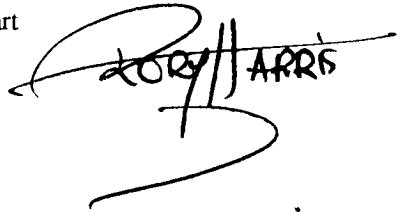
your fears

until the first

breath, five

fingers, five toes

the beating heart

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rory Harris". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

## MAUREEN KOZICKA

but . .

Shutters put up

against hope

slat

the sunlight

with a lattice

of

doubt.