

Rebecca Edwards

AT CAFÉ AFFAIR

She says: I love you and I never want to
they kiss: tongues sour with tannin and too much
talk/I never/the back of your neck/too much
like bread? I like bread and I love
your hands still in your lap
I never/sometimes/no I never
your hands/still/you and I
am kneading your back like bread
your back/your back but you
never
talk
too much
I want to ask you why
the cafés here are all
called Rendezvous
want to have an
other for the road. I love
these signs: see you again
you again: your hair/your skin
again/my hands/I want to
trace the subtle coarsenings of time
to go home/time has healed your skin
has brought your face into my hands
and they are wet. I never.
Time. I want to. Go home.
You and I. I never.
Love these signs: see you again?
I never. See
she says I never want to
see you
cry. Never again/never
see you again.
It is late. Her hands are cold.

20