

eleven moments of war

Sherryl Clark

blood pooling on the broken pavement

the whine of a bullet off a roof

brown and grey camouflage
lost in the desert

a night scope full of shadows

flag at half-mast
again

a letter unanswered

a helicopter whisking up
a soup of sand and dust

meaningless salutes

the politician flying in
full of smiles

the latest photo of a toddler
not cuddled since birth

the longest day, the one before
shipping out for home.