Contents

The Beginning: In Which the Author Positions Himself	1
Chapter One: The Journey before Us	11
Interlude One: The Teaching of Barns and Birds	17
Chapter Two: Earth Grief	20
Interlude Two: "Once You Are Real You Can't Become Unreal Again"	46
Chapter Three: Shame and Guilt	49
Interlude Three: "People Possess Four Things That Are No Good at Sea"	83
Chapter Four-The-First-Part: Inevitability and Descent	91
Narratio Interruptus: The Diagnosis	116
Chapter Four-The-Second-Part: Inevitability and Descent	163
Interlude Four: Fragments from a Stained Glass Window	176
Chapter Five: The Journey through Grief and Loss	191
Interlude Five: "It's Hard to Live without Love, You Know"	230
Chapter Six: The Life We Live with Afterward	241
Epilogue: "It's Hollow Inside, Isn't It, Just Like Me?"	251
Bibliography	270