

**SAMPLE POEMS FROM**

**Ring of  
Dust**

**By Louise Marois**

**Brick Books  
Winter 2025**

**Please do not quote publication until  
verified with the corrected, finished book.**

Copyright © Louise Marois, 2025

We acknowledge the Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund, and the Government of Ontario, and the Ontario Arts Council for their support of our publishing program.



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada

Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

Brick Books  
487 King St. W.  
Kingston, ON  
K7L 2X7  
[www.brickbooks.ca](http://www.brickbooks.ca)

she the attractant



we work ourselves loose bit by bit  
a memory in a spiral somewhere  
we're uprooted lost for words

my lips feel you kiss them

· i move back in with my parents  
take the foldout bed  
get some tiny pyjamas, a new stretchy material

the lukewarm blooming of the sky  
the limits\* of the white miracle  
i take a break from my tumbles, from words stumbled upon  
i summon you with a touch of country verse with what  
peels away the ugly what would've been said all those  
wasted years i'd so be up for it would get drunk on the  
offering

· we consult psychiatrists, we're told to lower  
our voices  
we fold rags  
a cork butt plug dangling from each

i confuse your absent voice with the  
howling under the door and all the  
necrosis that comes with it\*\*  
the lacks, ruins, unfulfillment, secrets  
complete with a display  
of pirouettes

\*\*\* ejected from a submarine, i swim with other victims  
a boy could make love to me were it not for this shirt between us