

# DARNELL "DEESOUL"



Vallejo, East Oakland, Antioch,  
Pittsburg, Stanford • 1999

# CARSON

## And When They Finally Hand Me a Name After Danez Smith

I will be still wisping / most of me /  
fading memory first / into tomorrow /  
still burning / at the sight of me /  
my hand a watermark / of a forgotten  
summer / still glowing / in the lost light /  
muddy mirage / morbid marriage of  
mutability / and dirt / always shifting /  
for another's God / steady silent / for  
another's flame / bone crackling quiet /  
they will call me kindling / see me gaslight  
drenched / name me guilty / never find  
the igniting match / monster made  
of molehills / and afterthought / still praying  
for an unraveling / ontological absence / still  
searching for salvation / demi deity  
of vanishing / into dawn / still holding  
horizon / strong as momma's hush /  
holy as the knife / in her teeth