Fadwa Says

J. C. TODD

A cousin moved to Baghdad
from Tehran—gone
her children—gone
    or all of them missing
which may not mean gone
    but just beyond reach
which may mean alive.
    Or not. It’s war,
Fadwa says, and there’s no fog in her
    sorrow and clarity.
Ten years, no word.
Wishing no one dead
    even if they are.