Ode to February 9

Jen Hofer∗

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ODE TO FEBRUARY 9

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dizzy ardor, wheel, whir, you bird
asymmetrical, slant, sure, unsure you
night slow, you furl, fall, exacting
into or towards, with, without and
exact, blue like a new neck like suggestion
like bats shattering the dirty blue river

marbles not windows, hazy, elusive
illustrious tremor thrilling, you

shutter, feather you, fan, goldfinch
or goldfish, flustering wingspan wicked
lithe blue light, you hover, hustle, unsure, sure in a

thousand blue pieces of providence, divine,
embered, remember you a thousand peaches of

ardor shimmying wondrously, plum-mouthed and hair full of shouts of shadows
of ruthless magnificence stuttering up against this dizzy