

Ode to the Eastern Shore

Four hundred islands disappeared.
The Chesapeake Bay swallowed them.

She's a hungry body,
her water rising since Maryland
was settled four hundred years ago.

The bay smacks her lips
on the jigsaw-puzzle state.

She devours as much land
as she wants.
Chesapeake Bay is a fat,

full body of water,
proud of her weight.

She shakes salt
onto the coast,
turning the land

into a ghost.