

Care Instructions

After your letters, the lifetime
of hellos, the post-its propped

against a pot of tea while you
went out early with the dog; after

the failsafe birthday cards, the words
for congratulation or sympathy, cheery

missives untangling from a thicket
of floral doodles — I am left with

your felt-tipped notes-to-self
on the moisturiser (*kind*), the surgical

spirit (*not on cuts*), the unsharp
knife (*dangerous blade!*), the last

of the laundry powder (*it's SUPPOSED
to be GENTLE*). I think that's everything.