

## Spring

so close  
spring  
cautious buds  
dwarfed by rowdy weeds

geese home-hunting for goslings  
frozen leaves clogging the stream  
freed when a twig clears the path

chilled breeze tempered by the eager sun  
smiling and ready for a brave new season  
most air breathers done wintering  
smothered in down and fur

the hills call  
trees adorn in dazzling green  
tiny bluet  
opens  
looks  
ready

the Talking Animal Party

2, 4, 6 and many legged  
(any re-configuration of same)  
bespectacled, slovenly  
putrid and precious

they gather silently, sniffing and picking  
with practiced aplomb  
stray food or feces for the tasting  
cornering and posturing  
until the seating is satisfactory.

The opening growl sets teeth flaring  
a lone wag midst prides of bristle  
twitching ears  
and no one looks another in the eye  
never in this assembly, where  
vulnerable jugular stays on the menu; there are no vegans.

With no resolution on prior meeting notes  
the financials shredded for mating rituals  
wild stinging disrupted committee reports;  
those still alive settled on new business.  
The miscued *coo* segregated ranks still further  
a beak break was called.

Upon return (first some quick munching and tidying)  
the diminished consensus relented  
voting to *Leave It!*  
for the next generation.

creation

a very long time ago  
right after time got discovered  
someone was late

around that same time  
water was invented  
someone drowned

a featherless bird,  
no thumbs for an ape,  
balloons without air

dangling fore, aft and chads  
wrong angles meeting  
darling poisonous rattlers

non-rising bread or sun  
a backwards horizon  
not much to begrudge

if envy had been born  
brightly pulsing and panting  
it might have mattered

but bumping bites of righteousness  
headstrong and ignorant  
couldn't parallel park worth beans

which hadn't yet been baked

## One, Two Tree

they kiss, they weep  
born heavenly as one  
ah, light's first glow  
the trees bravely come  
sheltering, homing  
branching and feeding  
refining the air  
support every needling  
solid network beyond  
plunging easily deep  
wide, thickly sounding  
sweet elixirs to seep

these two gentle maples  
obviously twins  
one grown tossed and wild  
from a quarrel lacking wins  
this snarl and tangle  
unforgiving arms wrapped  
wanton enigmatic  
whose sibling's untapped  
ordered and restful  
ease lending kind shade  
a hoist for a swing  
tender need may be made  
changing hue light on cue  
spilling leaves with a sigh  
we groundlings gaze skyward;  
each one is as high  
as the other and wide  
one frantic, one fine  
the same only different  
regal form, full divine

from our lowly perch  
meager arms, liable limbs  
in awe, trembling thanks  
sister trees, can you swim?

## Crouching Tiger

comfortable in their \$600 seats,  
even the cigarette smoke was pleasant  
enough to dilate their minds and  
allow them to sit back and enjoy the show.

stand-ups and high kicking pasties  
filling the void with acceptable birdies  
warming the watchers for the real delights

*while in middle earth, millions lost  
the wager when washington's one armed bandits  
kicked the economy lower than a lie  
and babies bit the bandaid of health care  
for the winners who take all  
and forget to even let the loose change  
drop and roll to the safety of plain pockets*

*while over there in sand and bibles  
a fashion show of belts and bags  
stylish, disposable one-size-fits-all  
blows casual munchers to peace  
in the name of godallah amen*

barely edge of seat as the follow spot  
and snare drum lure the star  
and his pets to center stage,  
hoops, whips and tasty treats  
reward relinquishing one's nature  
trained for the drama of defiance  
suspending belief at the amazing near horror  
of one subservient to a lesser's command

Since most of the audience enjoyed the feint  
(more than half completed by the time  
the tiger decided it was better to eat his lord's neck  
than sit and be treated like an animal)  
no money was refunded.

The remainder of the performance was cancelled;  
few knew the attack was not part of the act.